FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 OCTOBER 1983

Lebanon

Bombings Aftermath — Following the bomb attack against the Marine headquarters, Vice President Bush arrived in Beirut on 26 October to review the U.S. force and meet with President Amin al-Jumayyil, Beirut radio reported. The White House called for a meeting of the foreign ministers of the four states participating in the Multinational Force, the French External Relations Ministry disclosed, according to AFP, adding that the meeting will "most likely" be held in Paris on 27 October.

Rescue and clearing up operations continued on the rubble of the destroyed headquarters of the U.S. and French contingents, as the death toll increased to 214 Marines and 58 French paratroopers, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. Meanwhile, a Marine spokesman cited by Voice of Lebanon radio stated that 300 Marines have arrived in Beirut to replace the casualties.

The Marine contingent was again placed on alert on 25 October in view of reports that three more boobytrapped trucks were roaming the airport perimeter near the U.S. positions, according to Beirut radio, while a British official affirmed that the British Embassy in Beirut was evacuated because of a "suspicious car" outside, AFP reported.

Reaction — The Lebanese parliamentary Foreign Affairs, Security, and Defense Committees held a joint session at which they reached decisions calling on the government to tackle the crisis' external causes and "not to accept" the premise that it is caused by an internal dispute, Voice of Lebanon announced. The committees also decided to denounce the bombings and to express condolences to the U.S. and French peoples and appreciation for the U.S and French decisions to continue participation in the Multinational Force.

Describing Secretary of State Shultz' statements on the bombings to a closed meeting of Congress as an attempt to intensify U.S. "hostility" against Syria, Damascus radio noted that he said Syria "must bear responsibility for any terrorist actions, whether it is aware of them or not." In other reports, the radio discussed U.S. frustration following the bomb attack and focused on political discussions and division over whether the Marines should remain in Lebanon.

Commander of the Christian forces in southern Lebanon Major Sa'd Haddad asserted that the Russians and Syrians, aided by leftist Lebanese elements, "committed the crime in Beirut," adding that Lebanese Army officers who are collaborating with the Syrians participated in the attacks, according to the Israeli newspaper *Ma'ariv*. On the other hand, the Egyptian newspaper *Al-Jumhuriyah*, cited by Cairo radio, declared that "Israel is the one that benefits" from actions such as the bombings that may provoke the United States and France into further involvement in Lebanon.

Other Political Developments — Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri confirmed that the Lebanese National Reconciliation Congress will be held in Geneva 31 October as scheduled, AFP reported. Since not all parties have been invited to attend, President al-Jumayyil stated that he has decided to meet with Lebanese leaders, trade unions, and functionaries to hear views relating to the congress, Beirut radio said, citing Al-Jumayyil remarks at 25 October meetings with various Lebanese functionaries.

Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri warned against any new "aggression" in the southern suburbs of Beirut. In a statement reported by Damascus radio, he called for action by the Security Arrangements Committee to stop the Phalangist "instigation campaign" and called the U.S. plans to deploy Marines in several areas "a new direct occupation" of Beirut aimed at "liquidating" the Lebanese Nationalist Forces.

Military Clashes — During the night of 25-26 October, Marine positions along the College of Science perimeter and Lebanese Army positions in the southern suburbs in Beirut came under attack, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. In a related report, Voice of Lebanon reported that the Army arrested two officers from the Fatah movement when a "wide-scale attempt to infiltrate" Army positions in the southern suburbs was repulsed. Lebanese Army positions in Suq al-Gharb also came under sniper and shellfire, according to Radio Free Lebanon.

IDF patrols were attacked near Shabriha and at the southern approaches to Sidon, Jerusalem radio reported. Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported that an Israeli patrol was ambushed near As-Sarafand.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian Offensive — Reporting on the latest stage of the offensive in the northern sector, Iranian military communiques carried by Tehran radio revealed that Iranian forces have captured three strategic heights overlooking Panjwin. The communiques also reported that Iraqi troops are destroying the town and predicted that the Iraqi regime will attempt to use the destruction of the town in propaganda attacks against Iran. Iranian forces, they maintained, have not shelled the town, and Iraq therefore bears full responsibility for its destruction. In further action, Iranian forces captured 10 border posts in the region of Sar Dasht. Meanwhile, IRNA reported that in response to the Iranian attacks Iraq used chemical weapons against a village near Baneh, killing 13, blinding 10, and otherwise wounding 40 others.

For its part, in reports by INA and military communiques broadcast by Baghdad radio, Iraq continues to maintain that the Iranian offensive in the northern sector has been defeated. A military spokesman cited by Baghdad radio stated that, in addition to numbers reported in past communiques, over 12,161

Iranians have been killed, bringing the total number for this offensive to over 19,239, with thousands wounded and a large number captured. An unnamed high-ranking officer disclosed that Iran is preparing a new offensive once it replaces its losses, INA reported.

Ramadan Tour — Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan visited the capitals of the GCC states in order to persuade the Gulf states to adopt a stand that will bring the end of the war closer "or expand it" enough to enable "influential states" to pressure Iran into ending it, Radio Monte Carlo stated, citing a "senior Gulf official." Ramadan conveyed messages from President Saddam Husayn to the leaders of the six GCC states that emphasized that "the only way" to force Iran to end the war is to use sophisticated weapons, "particularly the French Super Etendards and Exocet missiles," against it, the radio reported.

Bandar Khomeyni — Iraqi Vice Foreign Minister Muhammad al-Sashav informed the Japanese ambassador in Baghdad that, by "highest" leadership decision, Iraq will bomb Bandar Khomeyni, KYODO reported.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat inspected the Nahr al-Barid camp following the 24 October shelling of the camp by "Libyan," PFLP-General Command, and dissident forces, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. In the West Bank, Palestinian "revolutionaries" exploded a bomb near the bus station in Nabulus, the radio reported, also noting that Palestinians in the city staged a demonstration against the Israeli occupation.

Jordanian Ambassadors Shot

Jordanian Ambassador to India Muhammad 'Ali Khurma was shot and seriously wounded by an unidentified gunman in New Delhi, Delhi radio reported, adding that India expressed deep shock and abhorrence at the incident. Indian President Indira Gandhi also expressed her shock over the incident, the radio added. In an official statement broadcast by Amman radio, the Jordanian Foreign Ministry denounced the attack. AFP reported that the ambassador to Italy, Taysir 'Ala' ad-Din Tuqan, was "gravely wounded" when five gunmen fired on his car.

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Beirut Blast Linked to U.S., Israeli Policy

NC250949 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0545 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Political commentary: "Pain Can Only Cause More Pain"]

[Text] Brothers: Our struggling masses, the horrific explosions by whose horrible sound Beirut was awakened on Sunday, and the tragic result — the large number of victims among the U.S. and French soldiers — pose big questions for everyone. We hope that these questions will be thoroughly understood and answered completely. We also hope that no one will turn his eyes away from the issue to avoid or to disregard it, because [words indistinct] to face the tragic facts.

The question we would like to begin with is: Where did this man come from whose identity and address are unknown and who, after loading a truck with death, drove it, made himself a detonator, and caused all of this pain and this tragedy? He must have emerged as a product of the intense oppression, the ordeals of devastation, the waves of indiscriminate bombardment, the suffocation of life during the siege, and the feeling of superior power demonstrated by the United States and Israel as well as all the powers that kill people, their dreams, and children in return for black and ugly deals, unjust balances, and trivial regional gains.

This statement may appear far from the ordinary language of politics, or as a kind of poetry. But, have the [word indistinct] policies succeeded in solving the problem? Have the pain and tragedies succeeded in anything other than driving and even forcing the people to retaliate with more pain, disasters, and victims? Pain can only cause more pain. He who sows thorns cannot reap flowers, but thorns, blood, victims, and tears.

Shouldn't the tragedy of the American and French soldiers remind us of the tragedy of the As-Sana'i' building during the siege of Beirut, of the Sabra and Shatila tragedy, of the black days of bombardment to which the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples were subjected, and of the scores of booby-trapped vehicles which killed people in Al-Fakhani, the Arab University of Beirut, Sidon, and Tripoli? Shouldn't the tragedy of the American and French soldiers remind us of the oppression befalling the Palestinian people, of the disrespect of their rights, of the devastation wrought against them, of the massacres planned for them with incitement by the United States, Israel, and those who are in control of fates?

Everyone should think of this unknown man, who himself, after loading his truck with the equivalent of an atom bomb, drove to horrible death. He may have had a humane heart that was torn by vehement oppression. He might have been a man who had lost all members of his family at one time. He might have been a young man who saw them murdering his family, or a citizen who was embittered by destitition, displacement, and exile from his homeland. He might have harbored a conscience that could not bear the cruelty of the diabolical political ploys and equations.

All parties must imagine this man and ask themselves what kind of people oppression can create, and what kind of pain tragedy can cause. Thousands and even millions of people in this region are indeed threatened with violence growing in their hearts, if those who chart oppressive, ugly, and painful policies are not deterred.

Baghdad VOP on U.S. Policy, Beirut Blast

JN252309 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1650 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Brethren: The United States has never been in a worse situation than it is now. The United States is now a pirate roving over seas and lands everywhere, as if the world had become public property from which the pirate can take what he wants through the power of his fleets, barges, and soldiers. If psychologists analyze this phenomenon, it will be revealed beyond a doubt that some derangement has overtaken the U.S. Administration, rendering it unable to control itself. It is a derangement that made the United States consider itself a custodian of the entire world; drawing up its policies, determining its destiny, appointing its rulers, deposing whoever it wants, and setting up states and canceling others.

The present century witnessed two destructive world wars from which the United States emerged as master of the world. It maintained its full power and tyranny because it did not sustain any losses during them and did not expose its people to the experience and woes of war. It did not taste death, or suffer economic losses, or the destruction of societies. The first bitter U.S. experience in this field was in Vietnam, where the heroic Vietnamese people managed to rub the U.S. nose in the mud and made it taste death for the first time.

However, years have passed and the United States has obviously forgotten that experience, which shook its entity and community for the first time in history. It is now returning to the same policy. It is the policy of international terrorism, once using Israel, and once its direct forces.

One of the results of this policy, which aims at sorting out the world according to the U.S. wishes and whims, is what is currently taking place in our region, particularly in Lebanon. The Zionist invasion of Lebanon was a prelude for the dispatch of U.S. forces to Lebanon with the aim of arranging the situation there in a manner that guarantees the two partners' attainment of the gains for which they are planning. What has happened in Lebanon is a logical result of this frivolous policy — the policy of sending U.S. and Israeli soldiers to the lands of peoples which have long suffered from colonialism. It is a logical result of this policy, which aims at subjugating a very tense region that is full of surprises and of living, militant peoples seeking to solve their problems without any foreign colonialist interference.

If the explosion in the Marines' headquarters will open the American people's eyes to the policy of their administration, it will also teach this administration and future administrations that the time when it was possible to tamper with the peoples' destinies is over, that walking in a minefield is not like walking in a U.S. orchard of cherries, that the only right policy which every American should learn is that of forcing Israel to completely withdraw from all areas and to return the Marines to the beautiful U.S. nest so that these peoples can exercise their right to life with reassurance.

'Arafat on Relations With Communist Parties

GF252030 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, asserted that the firm relations between the PLO and the communist parties are struggle relations cemented through long years of Palestinian struggle against Zionism and imperialism, and that these relations continue to grow in the soil of the same struggle trench and continue to achieve successes for all the national and progressive powers against the enemies of freedom.

In a special statement to WAFA, Abu 'Ammar said yesterday that these relations have not changed at any time. Abu 'Ammar concluded his statement saying: Our affirmation comes during a hysterical campaign being carried out by the Zionists, imperialists, and their agents to harm the firm relations between the PLO and the Lebanese Communist Party so as to harm the goals and struggle of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Fedayeen Attack in West Bank City Reported

JN251738 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] A group of our revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland set off an explosive charge near a bus station prepared for the transporation of the Zionist soldiers. The station is adjacent to the Zionist military office in the city of Nabulus in the occupied West Bank. The explosion killed or wounded several Zionist soldiers. A Zionist spokesman admitted the operation and said that his forces carried out a large search campaign in an attempt to catch the perpetrators, who withdrew safely to base.

Nabulus reports said that the enemy forces started an arrest campaign among the Palestinian citizens under the pretext of their suspected connection to the operation. An atmosphere of tension reigned in the city. The Palestinian citizens staged demonstrations condemning the occupation. They hurled stones at the enemy soldiers and military vehicles. The situation in the city is tense at a time when a spirit of challenge and resistance is spreading among our people there.

Joint Forces Attack Israelis in S. Lebanon

JN251745 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The operations of the joint Palestinian and Lebanese Nationalist Forces continue against the Zionist invading forces in various parts of the occupied Lebanese territories, regardless of the enemy's defensive measures and precautions to prevent these operations. The heroes of the joint forces continue to inflict heavy losses on the enemy. A joint forces group attacked a Zionist invading forces' military patrol near the township of As-Sarafand in southern Lebanon. The attack, which was carried out with machine guns and explosive charges, killed or wounded more than 10 Zionist soldiers and completely destroyed a military vehicle.

Immediately afterward, the invading forces launched an arrest campaign among the Lebanese citizens in As-Sarafand. A large-scale mop-up operation was also carried out in the area, which the enemy had cordoned off.

Large Percentage of W. Bank Said Backing 'Arafat

JN251903 Jerusalem Al-Fajr in Arabic 23 Oct 83 pp 1, 5

[Editorial: "The People and the Leader — the March of Steadfastness and Confrontation"]

[Excerpts] The PLO has never hesitated for one moment to fight the most fierce political battles under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat against all attempts to hamper the march of the Palestinian people and to liquidate their legitimate leadership. But some Arab regimes, headed by Al-Asad's regime, have chosen to stand against the evolution of history and the will of the Arab people. These regimes, which are known for their reactionary stands, tried to strangle the Palestinian will and dominate the Palestinians in the present situation, thereby acting in harmony with imperialist attempts.

Since we believe that our legitimate leadership does not stem from this or that regime, and our independent Palestinian decisionmaking is not subject to the intelligence organ of this or that regime, we decided to prove to those who are still blind and deaf in this crucial battle, through facts based on a public referendum, our profound and strong faith in this legitimate leadership despite all hardships.

Our direct referendum in which 6,000 citizens participated from 200 towns, villages, and camps throughout the occupied West Bank and Gaza, produced the inevitable result which terrified all hostile forces. Some 93.4 percent of our masses openly declared their support for Yasir 'Arafat as leader and commander of the PLO, the sole, legitimate representative of our Palestinian people everywhere and at all levels.

Fatah's Al-Hut on Dissidence, Syrian Relations

PM251240 London Ash-Sharq al-Awsat in Arabic 21 Oct 83 p 3

[Interview with Shafiq al-Hut, PLO representative in Beirut, by Mahir 'Uthman in London — date not specified]

[Excerpts] Question: What is your opinion on what is happening in the Palestinian arena, that is, the question of dissidence?

Answer: What is happening in the Palestinian arena is very sad. There is no doubt that the Palestinian citizen, whether in our occupied territory or in diaspora throughout the world, now feels deep sadness and sorrow over what is happening in the Palestinian arena, particularly among brother members of the Fatah movement who, throughout the struggle of many years, have shown that love and friendship rule supreme among them.

Nevertheless, the current events were no surprise to me. I say this in all modesty as a PNC member. When I was in Algiers last February I spoke about this subject and the possibility of a division in the Palestinian ranks to the Palestinian brothers and the PLO leaders. I then gave a description of Palestinian unity which aroused much interest and reaction among Palestinian circles. I described the unity that existed then as "the unity of Palestinian paralysis," meaning that I could see two contradictory political lines among the Palestinian factions and even within the same faction. I said that we have two roads before us: one road leading to a political settlement which should have its strategy, instruments, and method of action, and the second the struggle for total liberation of the Palestinian soil, which should also have its own strategy, instruments, and method of action. I said that the present PLO structure, its existing national unity, and the type of existing relations between it and the Arab World and the world in general do not allow liberation.

This does not mean that I am against the liberation of Palestine. I said that this is a legitimate right. I also said that since we have gone to the United Nations, accepted the UN charter, and accepted UN membership it means that we are pursuing the road to settlement and not to liberation. This should have been made clear to the Palestinian people and Palestinian organizations. We should have spoken out for this objective or that objective and the matter should have been put to the PNC in order to place in a position of responsibility whoever it may deem suitable for this phase of our long struggle.

What happened in Algiers was unfortunately that they once again agreed on a national unity and a political program that were bound to explode quickly. They were bound to explode because after Beirut we had entered a new phase. When the Palestinian resistance was in Beirut and had its own armed force and its various institutions and bodies this type of unity could have continued. I wish the division or the dissidence had taken place over a clear political program within the Palestinian parliament, the only framework within which dialogue and debate should take place.

I do not wish to condemn the so-called dissidents or the so-called loyalists. I condemn them insofar as I reject the idea that the final say among the Palestinians should be for the gun. If so far we have failed to liberate our land when it is our duty to at least preserve the dignity of the man whom we have liberated, in other words freedom of expression should be put above the gun, far away from threats and terror.

Question: Do you believe that the division that took place was unaffected by influences and pressures from outside the Palestinian arena?

Answer: The fact that the Palestinian revolution lacks a Palestinian land, that the Palestinian people are dispersed in the Arab countries, and that the Palestine problem in essence is a national problem which, whether we like it or not, affects the destiny of other Arab countries, at least those neighboring Palestine, makes it difficult for the Palestinian presence and Palestinian action not to be affected by the other Arab countries in one way or another. The Palestine problem has also become an international problem. In other words, there are two conflicting attitudes adopted by the two giants who rule the world. Therefore, the degree of closeness or otherwise to the one major capital, Washington, and the other major capital, Moscow, is a reflection of the Palestinian position between the far right and the far left.

When we speak about the independent Palestinian decision than I understand that such a decision is made by two Palestinian parents or two Palestinian brothers. I understand the independent Palestinian decision to mean that it is the decision that will achieve for the Palestinian people their objectives and inalienable rights, at least in the manner defined by the United Nations, that is the right to self-determination, to return to their home and property which was usurped in 1948, and the right to establish their independent state. This is how I understand the Palestinian national decision.

In my view when we stress and emphasize this decision we must, as I said to the PNC, Arabize this decision. This is because frankly and honestly I doubt that there is an Arab concensus to establish a Palestinian state. In my profession as a journalist I have investigated what Carter said — that no Arab leader had spoken to him about a Palestinian state. I have confirmed that this actually happened and I know, through my experience and follow up, that Arab recognition of the independent Palestinian state did not come suddenly; it came gradually and from one state after another. The Arab decision was not a decision that was agreed upon and taken at one single meeting.

For this reason I say that the Palestinian decision must be both Arabized and internationalized so that we can put it into effect. Unfortunately, we have only been able to internationalize the Palestinian independent decision. I see at the United Nations, from where I have returned recently, that there is a good majority there that recognizes us and struggles with us for the establishment of a Palestinian state on Palestinian national territory, but this international support needs regional, that is national and pan-Arab support. I believe that there are differences in views. Some of the brothers sometimes pursue a pan-Arab course and do not see the need for a Palestinian state, while at other times we see a state pursuing a regionalist policy and fearing the creation of a Palestinian state and so on.

Although I was brought up and nurtured on the idea of pan-Arab nationalism I am a fanatic advocate of the establishment of a Palestinian state, not because I reject my Arabism or refuse to be part of a bigger Arab state, but because I fear the loss of the Palestinian national identity in the face of the rising Israeli and Zionist identity. We have an experiment in our history. One day Egypt and Syria became united and later they separated. Thus the Syrian returned to his national identity and so did the Egyptian without either losing anything. But the Palestinian identity was usurped not by a unionist pan-Arab decision but by a colonialist, racist, and Zionist decision. For this reason confirmation of the national identity is essential in the field of confronting the Zionist enemy. I am not refusing to be a Jordanian, Syrian, Egyptian, or a Saudi or any other Arab identity. The

Palestinian is called upon to convince his Arab brothers of the need to struggle for the establishment of a Palestinian state. Once this state is established there will be no problem. The state will be sovereign and the Palestinians are unionist by nature; they will be capable of taking decisions about unity with Syria, for example, or with Jordan, or with any Arab country.

Question: You have spoken about "Arabizing" the Palestinian decision. Was not the resolution adopted at the Rabat Arab summit in 1974 to consider the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people a confirmation of the Palestinian national decision with the pan-Arab framework?

Answer: Thanks for asking this question because it is important in the history of the Palestine problem. The resolution by the Arab summit at Rabat in my view was the most important decision in the history of Palestinian political struggle because it was the only time the Arabs unanimously decided to recognize the Palestinian leadership as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, the official spokesman of this people, and responsible for the people's self-determination. You know that the resolution was adopted in 1974, while the PLO was established in 1964, which means that it took 10 years of struggle to obtain this Arab resolution at Rabat.

This resolution was so serious that Israel and the United States decided — according to documentary evidence, including Kissinger's memoirs — not to allow this resolution to materialize. The essence of Israeli policy, and, therefore U.S. policy, has always been that the Palestine problem should be solved within the framework of Arab-Israeli negotiations and not negotiations with the Palestinian people, because by nature the Zionist dogma refuses to recognize the existence of this people.

For this reason I will go back to the first question in order to reiterate to our dissident brothers, regardless of the reasons that have prompted them to dissent even if they were reasons that justify what they have done, that they are gambling with the destiny of the Palestinian people and the Palestinian people's leadership. What I fear most is that what they have started is the beginning of the end of the PLO, in which case we will go back to square one and the Palestinian people will find no political leadership to speak on their behalf and determine their destiny.

Question: How do you visualize resolving the present crisis in the PLO?

Answer: If we are to be frank it must also be said that there is a dispute between a part of the PLO and the brothers in Syria. Despite all examination and research I could not find a reason for this dispute. I cannot imagine that the Syrian brother and the Palestinian brother can have a dispute at this juncture in particular when the Syrian people and the Palestinian people suffer more than all the other peoples because of the Zionist and Israeli presence. The whole of Palestine is usurped and so is part of Syria and half of Lebanon; moreover, the situation on the northern front is likely to explode. How can, when they have the same political slogans, have political disputes between them?

Nevertheless, as we hear on the radio and read in the press, Syria sees itself — and it is the right of Syria and the Syrian regime to do so — as being the country that is the [enemy]target and the one that is standing fast. Therefore, the decision should be up to it. Neither Lebanon nor the Palestinians, nor even the Jordanians have the right to make decisions contrary to the Syrian decision. I am for the principle and the need for avoiding contradictions, as the Syrian, Palestinian, Jordanian, and Lebanese stands should complement one another in order to be able to confront this serious cancer which is capable of striking at and hurting all these forces put together, though not defeating them.

Our solidarity readjusts the balance of power and enables us to escalate militarily and politically. In my honest pan-Arab view, if intentions are sincere and everybody rose above it all, then Syria need have no fear that the Palestinians or the Jordanians will adopt decisions that are contrary to its decision. They must all sit together and the decision must be one national decision which will augur well for everybody. Failing this, the situation will further deteriorate and lead to further frustration and disappointment for the Arab citizen.

Fatah's Abu Iyad Arrives in YAR on Visit

GF221810 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Fatah Central Committee member, arrived in San'a' at noon today on a visit to the YAR. He is accompanied by Brother Hikmat Zayd, PLO representative in San'a'. He was received in the airport by Brother 'Ali 'Uthrub, YAR interior minister; Brother 'Abdallah Abu al-Ghannub, deputy director of PLO office in San'a'; and members of the PLO office.

Brother Abu Iyad met in Aden earlier this morning with Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium in the PDRY. The latest developments in the situation in the Arab region in general and the situation in the Palestinian arena in particular were discussed. Brother Abu Iyad also met with Brother 'Ali 'Antar, first deputy prime minister in the PDRY, in the presence of Brothers Hikmat Zayd and 'Abbas Zaki.

Press Conference Reported

GF241726 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Fatah Central Committee member Abu Iyad held a press conference at the Ministry of Information and Culture in San'a' this morning that was attended by correspondents of local radio and television, Arab and foreign news agencies, and newspapers.

Abu Iyad said in his press conference that imperialist and Zionist forces and their tools in the region are always trying to abort the Palestinian revolution and are hatching vile plots that do not only aim at the Palestinian people and the Palestinian cause, but the entire Arab nation, and are intended to undermine this nation's steadfastness, its resistance, and its confrontation of any plots by its enemies. He emphasized that these plots aim at undermining the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian and Arab man's steadfastness and his insistence on continuing the revolution to regain his rights.

Brother Abu Iyad warned against the dangers created by imperialist and Zionist forces against the Arab nation represented in creating problems in Lebanon to start a Lebanese-Lebanese war on the one hand and Lebanese-Palestinian war on the other. In his answers to questions, Brother Abu Iyad referred to the new plots which the Palestinian revolution is currently facing that are represented in splitting the revolution and creating inter-Palestinian war to reach the goals the enemies have failed to achieve through the war of annihilation the Zionist enemy has launched against the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese people in Lebanon. Brother Abu Iyad affirmed that despite all plots and conspiracies being hatched against the revolution, it will continue because time has proved that this revolution will continue to resist its enemies despite circumstances. He also noted that some steps have been taken by the Palestinian revolution to rally its forces to face the real enemies of our Arab nation. He affirmed that what is currently taking place on the Palestinian scene does not serve the revolution but serves its enemies and facilitate their reaching their goals.

Concluding, Brother Abu Iyad warned against the current attempts to further kindle the Palestinian-Lebanese and Palestinian-Palestinian differences. He noted that these differences will probably lead to unfavorable results.

AL-WATAN Interviews Fatah's Salah Khalaf

GF220555 Kuwait Al-Watan in Arabic 19 Oct 83 pp 8, 9

[Interview with Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, Fatah Central Committee member, by *Al-Watan* correspondents Mazin Hammad and Marwan Hazin — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Concerning mediation, the last mediation was that by the 18-member committee. From its recent statement, it is understood that the committee has suspended its mediation until circumstances are convenient.

[Answer] During the past 2 days, I have been holding contacts with Ibrahim Bakr. I made some points about the statement. I told him that the statement called on us to stop media campaigns against Syria — as if we are responsible for these campaigns, as if we do not have the right to reply to Syria's many accusations against us, and as if when Syria insults us we should bow our heads so that our differences will not be escalated.

Talas, who writes about flowers and roses more than he writes about war, attacked 'Arafat in his speech 2 days ago and accused him of taking part in the Tripoli events. If we reply to such accusations, they will accuse us of escalation and then would ask for the halt of media campaigns.

[Question] Many rumors have circulated about withdrawing legitimacy from the PLO during the next summit.

[Answer] First, with due respect to the summit, we did not acquire our legitimacy from it. Perhaps this is the cause of the covert conflict that is taking place within Fatah and between the PLO with many Arab states. This Arab silence is obvious. The silence existed during the siege of Beirut, and there is silence now too. We are politically besieged by the Syrians. This silence is caused by the fact that there are those who actually believe that our legitimacy came from the summit. No. We gained our legitimacy from struggle. No one has the right to withdraw it from us and no Arab ruler is permitted to do so. The Arab summit cannot withdraw our legitimacy or any single part of it. Only the Palestinian people can withdraw or grant confidence to the PLO. However, I say that the reason for spreading this rumor these days is the dissension movement. This movement has weakened the PLO on the Arab and international levels. Anyway, we hope that the Arabs will try doing that. [as received]

[Question] So long as you admit that there are gaps and mistakes in the movement, what are you waiting for? Why don't you rectify these mistakes, irrespective of the opposition's demands?

[Answer] We have introduced reformation in the organizational structure. For instance, there wasn't a financial control committee, so we set up such a committee, which instead of being confined to two members of the Central Committee, now includes seven members.

At present 79 military personnel are being tried in the court of revolution security, including Abu Hajim [Ahmad 'Attalah], Hajj Isma'il, and Kamal ash-Shaykh. We shall publish a booklet after the trial about the negligence during Lebanon's war and about the positive and negative aspects of this war.

[Question] Some resistance factions say they have not received their allocations for a year or more.

[Answer] This is not true. Allocations for all fighters poured into one side — the unit of military forces. Of course, the dissension movement came and has now destroyed everything. All factions receive their allocations from the fund, but sometimes there can be some delay.

[Question] We would like to know the reality of the Soviet stand on the crisis. You say the Soviets are with you, and Abu Salih [Nimr Salih] says there are with his movement. What is the truth?

[Answer] The Soviet Union, as it told us during an official meeting in June, is against dissension. The Soviets are the ones who coined the famous expression about Yasir 'Arafat — "the peoples of the Soviet Union recognize 'Arafat from his kiffiyeh" — and this was said officially. Why do the Soviets support the dissidents? Let us say that the Soviets always support political stands. The dissidents say they are against Fes resolutions and against the Soviet plan. They and their program are anti-Soviet and they have no political program for the Soviets to support. The Soviets say that the PLO program agrees with their thinking, but the people get confused between the Syrian stand, the Soviet stand, and the stand of the dissidents.

The Soviet Union has alliances with Syria within foundations established to counter the U.S. plans in the region and to oppose the Reagan plan. Thus, the Soviet Union backs the PLO, but not to the extent that it would fight a battle against Syria. If the Arab themselves refuse such a thing, how could the Soviet Union accept it?

Anyhow, the Soviet Union would not relinquish its interests with regard to Syria so long as there is not deviation in the Syrian line — from the Kremlin's point of view — concerning the whole situation in the region. They are free to have their own opinion. However, what I would like to say is that Moscow stands with the PLO under 'Arafat's leadership and against the dissension movement. I don't think that the Soviet Union is a small country that would reply to every statement made by Abu Salih. Finally, the Algerian-Soviet statement affirmed its support for the PLO under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat. I am confident about the stand of the Soviet Union, which wants matters between us and the Syrians to reach reconciliation and even alliance.

[Question] Do you think that the Soviet Union has reservations concerning the Syrian stand on the crisis?

[Answer] I cannot speak for the Soviet Union openly. Ask Moscow.

[Question] In light of the conference to be held by the movement, and in the event you take measures to separate the Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] group, do you believe that the organization will become two organizations?

[Answer] Let me ask you a question. Do you think that we are the ones who want to separate them, or do they want to be separated from us?

[Question] No, I believe that the decision always exists at the leadership level.

[Answer] It seems you have not read the statements of Abu Musa and Abu Salih.

[Question] We read everything. What do they say?

[Answer] They say that 93 percent of the movement is with them, that the entire movement with its military and political cadres is with the opposition, and that the opposition will hold a movement conference to elect a new leadership on the condition that the current leadership will be put on trial.

[Question] We learned that the upcoming general conference will adopt a decision to separate the opposition from the movement.

[Answer] We declared our legal stance and there is a chance for everything during the next week or 10 days. If no positive stance emerges from them, then everything has its answer. Honestly, this is their last chance in the conference. We called for the conference, and if they reveal any positive stance, then we are ready to come to an understanding.

[Question] Does this mean that at the upcoming conference you will discuss division and declare it officially?

[Answer] Why did you call it division?

[Question] What shall I call it?

[Answer] A hard truth that imposed itself. If they have enough backers, let them create a new organization. There are eight organizations on the Palestinian arena and certainly the number of the opposition members is greater than that of the popular struggle front. Let them establish a new organization; that is better than the current bloodshed, the price of which is being paid by our Palestinian youths. We do not know how to agree with them; maybe division will solve the problem and end the crisis.

[Question] The opposition says that it is Fatah and that is its name.

[Answer] Let them, for example, call themselves the democratic Fatah.

[Question] They want Fatah.

[Answer] Then we will call ourselves the democratic Fatah and they can call their movement Fatah. By that we separate ourselves from them.

[Question] But the Palestinian people are not able to endure and be patient more than they already have.

[Answer] What can we do? What is taking place is dangerous, but give me a solution. They are refusing any agreement. In this case the escalation of the media campaign and issuing silly documents and lying will continue when matters reach the level of personal issues and not political or organizational stances. I call on them to return to their movement. This is their last chance; we have had enough bloodshed. If Syria's wish is that the Palestinians remain in this situation, then is it an Arab wish also that we keep on insulting each other? This is not possible. We must reach a solution either by way of a democratic dialogue in which we agree on the unity of the movement, or a democratic separation. Moreover, why don't we try the experience of the democratic and the popular fronts. Isn't that better than the current bloodshed? I say that if they are loyal to the Palestinian work, then let them stop their media campaigns.

[Question] Is it true that 'Arafat has moved his headquarters to Tripoli?

[Answer] No. His temporary headquarters are still in Tunis.

[Question] Will Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] visit Jordan shortly?

[Answer] I said Abu 'Ammar is now in Tripoli, and at present he has no intention of leaving there for Jordan or anywhere else. 'Arafat went there in a very courageous adventure.

[Question] How will he leave it?

[Answer] Exit is easy, but entry is difficult.

[Question] What about the U.S. President's initiative? Can it be still dealt with by the Palestinian leadership?

[Answer] The Reagan initiative has come to an end and has been removed from our dictionary. In my view, settlement has reached an impasse and our people are now living in a distinguished stage, which can be described as that of a new state of violence.

After the bitter experience, it has been proven that what is going on against the PLO — directly and indirectly — is being engineered by the United States. This issue should receive attention because we do not want to return to the behind-the-scenes dialogue, which we a.e fed up with, and to the talk about settlement and about something which is not there.

[Question] After this experience, has the Palestinian revolution changed its alliances?

[Answer] No change has taken place in the revolution's concepts of allies and friends. This means our alliances have not changed. The Soviet Union, the Arabs, and the world liberation movements — these are our basic allies.

[Question] But you have not mentioned the Syrian ally.

[Answer] I did not mention the Syrian ally, but I mentioned our alliances with the world liberation movements. I did not say the Syrian ally because we hope Syria will become our ally even though it is still putting itself in the trench of the enemies against us.

[Question] What is your opinion of the PFLP and DFLP statement and Al-Fahum's statement on the Tripoli events?

[Answer] Al-Fahum is colluding with the Syrian plan, and if he does not desist he will be brought to task by the Palestine National Council.

[Question] What about the PFLP and DFLP statement?

[Answer] In fact, I was surprised over their stand. But after reviewing the Tripoli events, I wonder if these events will be the bridge through which one will cross to the other side. I hope this will not be so because I know the stand of George [Habash] and Nayif [Hawatimah], and I respect their steadfastness and support for us. I hope what was mentioned in the statement of Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh and Abu 'Ali Mustafa was based on wrong information and was not a premediated act to break their alliance with us.

[Question] The joint DFLP-PFLP leadership has proposed a comprehensive reform program. What is your opinion?

[Answer] Before I read this program, I tell you that we agree to it because we are with all democratic reformatory programs inside the PLO. We do not differ with them on this. Rather, we differ with a faction on its relationship with the Arab regimes. As for reform, it will find more supporters in Fatah than in the PFLP and the DFLP.

[Question] You say Tripoli is besieged. Do you expect a military solution in the near future?

[Answer] There is a siege. I fear that an attack will take place on Tripoli. But I defy all these forces besieging us to enter one street or quarter in the Al-Baddawi and Al-Barid River camps. At any rate, what is important is the fighting between Palestinians because it has a great negative effect on the spirit of the people in these camps.

Al-Asad, Al-Hasan Meet in Damascus 20 Oct

JN211240 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] WAFA reports today that a meeting was held yesterday in Damascus between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Khalid al-Hasan, Yasir 'Arafat's adviser. As reported by WAFA, the meeting lasted 6 hours. Wafa adds that Khalid al-Hasan said his talks with President al-Asad dealt with all issues related to the Palestinian situation. The Palestinian official declined to elaborate on the results of his talks, saying that the results will be made public in the next few days.

WAFA says that the Syrian president reiterated that Syria adopts a neutral stand on the dispute within Fatah. WAFA adds that Khalid al-Hasan arrived in Damascus yesterday from Jidda, where he met several times with the Saudi monarch.

BAHRAIN

Change Called For in U.S. Lebanese Policy

GF251920 Manama Akhbar al-Khalij in Arabic 25 Oct 83 pp 1, 6

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] The task of the U.S. Marines in Lebanon when they first came was to maintain peace and to help the legitimate government exercise its sovereignty throughout Lebanon. But now Washington has declared that the presence of the Marines is vital to U.S. interests. In the opinion of the White House, the United States was pushing the peace process forward, but today, after the destruction of its Marine headquarters in Lebanon, the United States is calling on the West to stand together to dominate the Middle East. As for the calls of the governments and peoples of the Arab region on the great powers to stop their attempt to colonize them anew and in a different form, these are unheeded.

Everyone hoped that this recent explosion and the earlier bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut would make Washington reconsider quietly and rationally its policy toward the region, because what has happened was the result of a miscalculation and a mistaken policy. All hope was swept away by the obstinancy and insistence on ignoring the views of the region's peoples, whose safety Washington claims to be seeking. He who works for the security and peace of a nation does not ignore the views of that nation and does not compel that nation by force or the threat to use force to acquiesce to the kind of peace he wants. Because Washington was unable to grasp the situation, it is now planning to take retaliatory measures and is preparing to expand the area under the control of its Marines, although this leads to a possible direct confrontation between the U.S. troops and the national Lebanese forces now controlling that area.

We want the U.S. Administration to fully understand that the concept of domination is of no use, because it collapsed with the end of the era of colonialism. The causes of what happened the day before yesterday still exist and such actions may be repeated if these causes are not eliminated and if a totally new and balanced U.S. policy does not emerge.

KUWAIT

ARAB TIMES Comments on Beirut Explosions

GF251302 Kuwait Arab Times in English 24 Oct 83 p 6

["Opinion" column by Ahmad al-Jarallah]

[Text] The Middle East has become the area of the unknown. The Iraq-Iran war becomes more severe and more ambiguous. Neither the mediation of various countries nor the failure of Iran to achieve its military aims can stop this war which is consuming the resources of the region. Thanks to the obstinacy of Iran, which requests the impossible, the region is being led into the unknown. The region is terrified not only by the Iraq-Iran war but also by the Lebanese war. U.S. Marines and French soldiers were killed by explosions yesterday. These events have increased the terror in the region, which takes steps into the unknown as more events take place. The whole Arab region was afraid yesterday as no one knew what would happen, and what would be the American or French reactions, not to mention those of the world.

For ten years Lebanon has been involved in a civil war that escalates from time to time, and the struggle amongst the different parties increases accordingly. The Iraq-Iran war is now in its fourth year. The money that has been squandered on these wars could have changed the face of the region, turning it into a rich industrial one with a rich people able to impose their view on the world.

Now it seems the whole region is moving towards an unknown future as Iraq has put mines in Bandar Khomeyni and is expecting the arrival of French Super Etendard planes, while in Lebanon Soviet military experts are just a few miles from the U.S. Marines.

Really, the unknown is ahead of us!

U.S. Warned Against Policies in Lebanon

GF251210 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0850 GMT 25 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Manama, 25 Oct (WAKH) — The newspaper *Ar-Ra'y al-'Amm* has warned the United States that gentlehearted Lebanon is also extremely ferocious since the strugglers in Lebanon have a desperate conviction that the United States understands this language and gives in to it.

The newspaper stressed that Washington charged the Iranians with perpetrating the Beirut operation as part of a media game designed to make American citizens believe that non-Lebanese groups are the ones that resist the U.S. presence in Lebanon and that the Lebanese welcome the Americans. The paper added that the Americans want to give the impression that the Arab Lebanese are not up to perpetrating such operations. In other words, the United States wanted to justify any aggression it may adopt against the Arabs who oppose it in Lebanon.

The paper said that the mushrooming Arab hatred for the United States is not motivated by love for the Soviet Union. The paper added that the Arabs — who were crushed by the U.S. injustice because they were demanding their rights in Palestine and other places — fight only for one thing, which is the defense of their defamed dignity and revenge for their land that is desacrated by the Zionists and the Americans.

Deputy Speaker Criticizes Crown Prince's Speech

GF241210 Kuwait Arab Times in English 23 Oct 83 pp 1, 6

[Text] The amiri speech, marking the opening of the current session of Kuwait's National Assembly, came in for strong criticism yesterday. Deputy Speaker of the Assembly Ahmad as-Sa'dun said the speech had made no reference to corruption in the government sector, citing the misappropriation of Kuwait Airways Corporation funds and irregularities in awarding tenders, as examples.

A special assembly committee has been set up to formulate a reply to the speech delivered by His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah.

As-Sa'dun said that the government had awarded a KD 2 million contract to one firm, although more attractive tenders had been submitted, and he claimed that an employee had stolen SR 2 million from Kuwait Airways Corporation's Saudi offices. The deputy speaker also asserted that the government was hiding the truth about an education ministry scandal involving a supervisor, claiming that ministry officials were involved. He said the government had made no attempt to clarify the situation or refute allegations. As-Sa'dun also accused the Petrochemical Industries Company of trying to smuggle in large quantities of alcohol and said the government did nothing about it. The government also took no action on forgeries and the applications for admission to Kuwait University, he said.

He pointed out that the law on the Al-Manakh stock market crisis did not reduce the number of defaulters. A fund, with a capital of KD 500 million, had been established to pay creditors of involved dealers, but the fund had required a further KD 270 million to cover the debts. He pointed out that the fund paid KD 569 million to the creditors of only six debtors, while the balance went to creditors of 16 debtors.

As-Sa'dun said aid paid by Kuwait to Syria, Jordan and Lebanon should be stopped. The donations to Syria were being used by the regime against the Palestinian and Lebanese people, while Jordan was forming special forces to intervene in the Arab Gulf with the help of the U.S. He said that nobody could defend donations to Lebanon, which was ruled by Amin al-Jumayyil who said that survival was for the strongest in Lebanon. He said he had hoped the amiri speech would have included this point.

In reply to the allegations, Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad pointed out that the government had formed a committee chaired by Deputy Khaled Al Jassar to investigate the scandal at the education ministry and the results of the investigation would be available in the near future. He said Kuwait's donations to Syria and Jordan were approved by the Assembly and that Kuwait did not give aid to Lebanon. He added that the government was ready to investigate corruption in the public sector if there was evidence of it.

Deputy Muhammad ar-Rushayd said that some ministers did not deserve their posts, and that some government officials were thieves and had connections with foreign powers.

Deputy Al-Juhaydali criticised the government for misplanning public services and utilities. He also attacked the calls for restoring relations with Egypt, saying there was no difference between Husni Mubarak and the late Anwar as-Sadat. He also said that donations to Syria, Jordan and Lebanon should be stopped as these donations helped to kill Arabs. The Palestinians in the occupied lands were the only losers, but the Palestinians who were exploiting the Palestinian cause should leave Kuwait.

But Deputy Faysal ad-Darwish called for the restoration of relations with Egypt, saying that Egypt had made a national stands on Arab issues and supported Iraq in its war against Iran.

Deputy Falah al-Hajraf attacked the plot against the Palestinian people in Lebanon, adding that some Arab countries supported Palestinian organisations in their fight against each other. He said that Syria should be boycotted for supporting these groups. He called for backing for the PLO under the chairmanship of Yasir 'Arafat.

Deputy Jasim al-Kharafi asked the government to study the affairs of closed companies as many violations were committed by these companies. He said there was a connection between the Al Manakh crisis and the situation of some closed companies. He also called on the government to fulfill the agreements with GCC states and to guide public expenditure.

The next Assembly session will be on Tuesday.

TU Delegation Walks Out of Budapest Meeting

GF211038 Kuwait Arab Times in English 20-21 Oct 83 p 5

[Text] A delegation from Kuwait's trade unions, which was attending a labor cultural session in Budapest organized by the Hungarian Labor Unions, walked out of the event in protest against repeated insults of the delegation and anti-Arab propaganda.

The first incident at the Labor Institute was at a banquet held in honor of the Kuwaiti delegation, the only Arab participants. The 15-man delegation was offered a cake in the shape of the Star of David, the formal emblem of Israel. Although outraged, the Kuwaitis decided to stay, on preferring to believe that this was an inadvertent mistake.

Two days later, however, numerous anti-Arab posters appeared on the walls of conference headquarters and the buildings housing the delegates. The posters were promotion material for a film about Arabs. An Arab wearing traditional dress and embracing a naked woman with one hand and a young boy with the other, was depicted on the posters.

The Kuwaiti delegate was also surprised at the Hungarians decision to replace its Egyptian translator with a Hungarian national without prior consultations or knowledge. After protesting to officials the Kuwaitis were told to accept whatever the host country imposed.

An official of the Hungarian unions said the movie was a comedy and being screened to entertain the delegates, deliberately ignoring Arab feelings.

The Kuwaiti delegation then threatened to withdraw if no formal apology was made. Just two hours after the Kuwaiti warning, they were informed by the organizing committee that they were booked on the next Kuwait Airways plane to Kuwait, which was scheduled to take off in less than 24 hours.

Officials of Kuwait unions are now considering actions against the Hungarian unions.

OMAN

Comoran Foreign Minister Arrives in Muscat

GF220651 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0610 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Muscat, 22 Oct (WAKH) — Said Madi Kafe, Comoran minister of foreign affairs, cooperation, and foreign trade, arrived in Muscat early today on a visit to Oman that will last for several days.

Visit Ends

GF231848 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Said Madi Kafe, Comoran minister of foreign affairs, cooperation, and foreign trade, left for home this evening after concluding a 2-day visit to Oman, during which he held talks with Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs. The visiting guest made a statement to radio and television correspondents, in which he said that his talks with Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah focused on the cooperation between Oman and Comoros, and the means of strengthening the ancient historical bonds between the two countries.

Iraq's Ramadan Meets With Qabus, Departs

JN221704 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Iraq's Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, left Muscat for Doha this afternoon on a visit to Qatar, during which he will deliver a message from President Saddam Husayn to his brother the Bahraini amir.

His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id received Taha Yasin Ramadan at noon today. In a statement after the meeting, Taha Yasin Ramadan said that he had delivered a message from President Saddam Husayn to his brother Sultan Qabus on bilateral relations and the current circumstances through which the Arab nation is passing, particularly the war of aggression that Iran launched against Iraq and what it has acheived. Ramadan explained that he and Sultan Qabus reviewed the latest developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war and the situation on the front, stressing that the Iraqis are capable of defending their land, exterminating the rancorous aggressiors, and foiling the imperialist-Zionist scheme being implemented by the Iranian regime.

Ramadan said that the recent Iranian aggression against Panjwin had not achieved its objectives, and that the Iranian forces had sustained additional heavy losses that will be added to those they sustained in the past. Ramadan said that during the meeting Sultan Qabus expressed Oman's support for Iraq's peaceful stands, and highly valued the heroic stand of the Iraqi Armed Forces in their confrontation of the aggression against Iraq and the Arab nation.

QATAR

Beirut 'Inevitable Consequence' of U.S. Behavior

GF251336 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0815 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Manama, 25 Oct (WAKH) — The Qatari newspaper *Al-'Arab* called on the United States to realize that what happened to its forces in Lebanon was an inevitable consequence of its aggressive behavior toward the Lebanese people and their national issues.

The paper stressed that the sorrow that prevails in the United States for the killing of U.S. Marines in Lebanon is also being experienced in the Arab nation. "The American people should ask themselves and their government about why it is in Lebanon and what it hopes to accomplish there." Concluding, *Al-'Arab* called on U.S. President Reagan to realize the grave role which his forces undertake in Lebanon and to comprehend that the age which we live in is the age of the people.

Iraq's Ramadan Arrives For Visit to Doha

JN222047 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani received in Doha this evening Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister.

In a statement to journalists following the meeting, Ramadan said that he conveyed a message to Amir Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani from President Saddam Husayn on the relations between the two fraternal countries, the current Arab situation, and the dangers against the Arab nation.

He added that President Saddam Husayn's message stresses the importance of serious discussion and cooperation among the fraternal Arab countries in order to adopt a stand on the fierce aggressions against the Arab nation. Ramadan said that he reviewed with Amir Khalifah ibn Hamad the recent developments of the Iraq-Iran war and the recent Iranian aggression against Iraq.

He pointed out that his highness the Qatari amir expressed Qatar's solidarity with Iraq, which has been defending its rights and territory for more than 3 years. The Qatari amir also expressed Iraq's peaceful initiatives and sincere cooperation to stop the fighting from a victorious position.

Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, crown prince and defense minister and Shaykh Khalid ibn Hamad Al Thani, minister of interior, attended the meeting from the Qatari side. Muhammad Sa'id as-Sahhaf, under secretary of the foreign ministry and the Iraqi ambassador in Doha, attended on the Iraqi side. Ramadan arrived in Doha this afternoon from Muscat on a visit to Qatar within his current tour of a number of Arab Gulf states.

SAUDI ARABIA

Yamani Meets With U.S. Secretary Regan

LD251134 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1110 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Riyadh 25 Oct (SPA) — Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Shaykj Ahmad Zaki Yamani met with U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan at noon today. They reviewed several issues of common concern. Shaykh Yamani described existing cooperation between the Kingdom and the United States as excellent. He told journalists that all joint projects between the two countries are progressing well. We look forward to other projects and to expansion of the field of activities between the two countries.

Replying to a question about Iran's threats to close the Strait of Hormuz, he said: I do not expect closure of the Strait of Hormuz; moreover, the war between Iran and Iraq will not continue for long.

Cooperation Session Begins

LD251643 Riyadh SPA in English 1210 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Riyadh, Oct 25, SPA — The Saudi-American joint commission in economic and technical cooperation started its eighth session today under the co-chairmanship of Saudi Finance and Economy Minister Muhammad Aba al-Khayl and U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan.

Welcoming the meeting, Aba al-Khayl said the commission had received many applications from governmental bodies to establish new projects and many accords on new ventures would be signed during the current session. He also welcomed Saudi and American businessmen who are taking part in the gathering. Aba al-Khayl said the Kingdom had witnessed big achievements during the last year and expressed thanks to the U.S. for its efforts to transfer technology and expertise, and urged the commission to intensify its efforts in the training sphere, which represents one of the greatest strides in the commission work. The commission is supervising about 400 Saudi trainees in the U.S. in various fields, he added.

He expressed hope that the commission would give much care in coordinating the establishment of joint ventures between the private sectors in the two countries.

The Kingdom's Gross National Product has more than tripled during the last six years, and the increase in the real growth in the private sector has reached 14 percent, he said. Aba al-Khayl added that the Kingdom's imports from the U.S. during 1982 amounted to 8.5 billions U.S. dollars, while its exports to Washington reach 6.2 billion dollars.

In opening remarks at the eighth annual meeting of the commission, U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan underlined the importance of the special relationship between Saudi Arabia and the U.S. and said the commission over the last eight years had become one of the pillars of that relationship.

"Americans were the hands-on advisors and co-workers in oil exploration, refining, gas gathering, and the first major civil construction projects. As teachers, and friends, and hosts to at least two generations of Saudi Arabian students who attended school in the U.S., Americans forged friendships which have been abiding. Our businessmen continue to be the most numerous partners for local joint ventures in large part because they share the values, the goals, and even the sense of humour of their hosts," he added.

"We assisted in the initial brick and mortar phase of Saudi development and can point to several facilities as testament to the building undertaken by the joint commission in the Kingdom. They include a power station, an experimental solar unit, many vocational schools and the impressive national centre for financial and economic information," he said.

Regan said the commission had also assisted in human resource development and helped to build the organisational infrastructure in government organisations. "We have helped advise Saudi Arabian administrators, and [word indistinct] administrators, and to train the trainers of the Saudi workforce. We are cooperating to help build a modern customs department, a central statistics department, a government agricultural lending institution, a tax department and an auditing bureau," he added.

Referring to the commission's new directions, he said Saudi officials during the last several months had requested for advisory services from top U.S. experts in specialised fields. "For example, we have been asked to assist in helping develop programmes in space cooperation, advising in all aspects of television production, in broadcasting, and in improving the Kingdom's emergency health care delivery system. Moreover, we are examining ways to fulfill the Kingdom's needs of these experts in the shortest span of time," he added.

Regan expressed pleasure that new agreements would be signed during the meeting, bringing the best American talent and technology on the ongoing development of modern public services in Saudi Arabia. "The economic recovery in the U.S. is proceeding strongly and smoothly. GNP grew at an annual rate of 9.7 percent in the second quarter and by 7.9 percent in the third quarter. Inflation, running at 13.3 percent in 1979 and 12.4 percent in 1980, has been less than three percent since the first of 1983. Year after year inflation is expected to be at the lowest rate since 1967. The prime interest rate is 11 percent, down from the over 21 percent rate we inherited when we took office," Regan said. He added that the U.S. economy was expected to grow at a rate of nearly six percent.

"The world is presently experiencing its first expansion of trade in three years, and the U.S. current account is moving predictably more deeply into deficit as the U.S. recovery gathers steam. The first effects of U.S. growth are already being felt around the world," he said.

"While the debt problems of the developing countries are far from solved, I believe that the continuation of sound economic adjustments policies, world economic recovery, and declining interest rates will solve them over the medium term," Regan added.

Highlighting the key role played by the International Monetary Fund [IMF] in both the adjustment and financing aspects of the problem, he said the U.S. strongly supported an increase in IMF quotas and that it was doing everything necessary to secure congressional approval of the U.S. funding. "We are pleased that Saudi Arabia is considering joining a group of nations to make a special loan to the IMF," he added. Regan said protectionist pressures must be resisted at all costs and international investment must be allowed to flow in response to market forces. "The Reagan administration strongly believes that our free trade and investment policies are the root of the great strength and resiliency of our economy," he added.

Regan described the current economic outlook in the U.S. as solid. "Inflation will continue to stay down, and more importantly — interest rates will decline. Economic expansion will continue. the effects of these positive developments are spreading to the rest of the world," he said.

Industry Minister Meets Regan

LD260004 Riyadh SPA in English 1904 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Riyadh, Oct 25, SPA — Visiting U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan confered here today with Saudi Industry and Electric Power Minister Engineer 'Abd ar-Rahman az-Zamil on means of strengthening cooperation between the two countries in industrial and petrochemicals. The meeting also concentrated on cooperation in electric power as well as ways to enhance export of Saudi industrial goods to the U.S. markets. Regan expressed his admiration for progress achieved by the Kingdom in the industrial field. Regan is heading his country's delegation to the joint Saudi-American committee on economic and technical cooperation currently holding its eighth session in Riyadh.

Economic Talks Open

LD251437 Riyadh SPA in English 1222 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Riyadh, Oct 25, SPA — The fourth annual joint meeting of Saudi-American businessmen opened here today to discuss private sector's issues of mutual concern as well as current trends in Saudi and U.S. economies. The participants will also discuss matters relating to custom accords, joint investment projects, and the progress achieved so far in the Arab-American ties. The meeting is taking place within the framework of the Saudi-American joint commission currently holding its eighth session in Riyadh.

King Fahd Interviewed on Economy, Lebanon

GF251030 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Interview with King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz by university professors, students, and those present at King 'Abd al-'Aziz University in Jidda on 24 October — read by the announcer]

[Excerpts] Question: After the drop in Saudi income as a result of the current petroleum situation, it has been rumored that the Saudi economy retreated drastically and that some of the government's subsidies to vital services and basic commodities have been removed. Can you explain the present situation?

Answer: Unfortunately, some of the merchants, who have some of the commodities which are subsidized by the government, try to spread such rumors. The commerce minister recently announced that the state still adheres to the same policy regarding the subsidy of food items. As for the sheep and the farmers there will be no changes in the policy, God willing. We pray to God to help us not to be in a position that urges undertaking any changes.

Question: Your Majesty, after you exerted efforts to terminate the bloodletting in Lebanon — as was noted by the news media in various parts of the world. Do you think that the national dailogue will ensure Lebanon's national unity and security?

Answer: As is well-known, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia exerted its utmost efforts with our brothers in Syria. I have to express my thanks to the Syrian president because he also exerted efforts and thus everything was attained that what was agreed upon and announced by the media from the representatives of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Syria. All this took place after obtaining the approval of Lebanon, of the Lebanese president and of the disputing sides in Lebanon.

So far, according to the information I have, the situation is satisfactory. The matter depends on the venue of the conference. It was reported that it would convene in Lebanon; then it was said in another place such as Jidda. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is ready to host this conference if the [Lebanese] sides agree to that. But we do not insist on anything that has to do with the others.

We hope that the incidents which took place yesterday in Lebanon will not affect this conference. These incidents are truly painful. These incidents should not have taken place because they do not benefit anybody and because they endanger us Arabs even more. We all know the number of fatalities among the Americans and the French. This act is not beneficial to Lebanon. Though this act was designed to impede the good office efforts in Lebanon, we hope that the superpowers will realize that such matters only represent the person [who perpetrated it] or the side that pushed him to do so. Concern with what happened made the French president travel to Lebanon yesterday which implies great concern. We know what was said in the United States and the meetings that took place between the U.S. President and various leaders and officials. There has also been international concern expressed by a number of Arab ambassadors in Washington who made statements to U.S. television networks denouncing such an act, foremost of whom are the Saudi and Syrian ambassadors.

What took place is a destructive act which may complicate matters. But our hope is that matters will soon resume their course until an amical atmosphere prevails among the Lebanese leaders. It is natural that we are displeased to hear every day reports on a renewal of heavy fighting among the Lebanese themselves, whether they undertake this themselves or they are pushed by others. Nobody is justified in saying that he did not want that very thing but was pushed to do it. Lebanon is the country that needs stability because there are in Lebanon various communities and factions that agreed on a certain thing.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia exerted efforts at a time when many of the world's countries believed that such efforts would not be successful. With God's help these efforts were successful and the way was paved for those who wanted stability. So if this stops or [word indistinct] then this is up to the Lebanese themselves. We hope that the incidents of yesterday and today will not affect the course of events with regard to ending the Lebanese issue.

Question: Contingents belonging to the GCC armies held their first joint maneuvers in order to prove their capability and determination to ensure their own protection without resorting to foreign powers. A few days ago fleets of the superpowers moved toward the Gulf fearing furure developments. Is this regarded as an incursion and an interference in the defense policy that is adopted by the GCC? What is the position of the GCC toward this measure?

Answer:: The GCC announced this and approved it in the session which was held in Bahrain. This is not aimed against anybody. Undoubtedly, it is in the Arab interest and in the interest of the Gulf countries that an association is concluded with regard to their ground, naval, and air forces. We don't want to count on anybody but the Almighty and our personal capability. As for the fleets which roam the seas in the world, then we — as countries whose military and capabilities are limited — should not be part of the dispute. We should be far from any problems between the superpowers so as not to become the victims.

As for the Gulf countries any coalition or gathering is not directed against anybody. On the contrary this reflects self-confidence since the Gulf countries succeeded in presenting something that could be an introduction to something else within the Arab framework and to the Gulf countries. There is great hope that the GCC can reach points that unify joint views and interests.

Question: Does Iran's threat to block navigation through the Strait of Hormuz have any effect on our petroleum exports?

Answer: Undoubtedly. This threat is regrettable and painful. We do not like to see a country like Iran use this matter in order to inflict harm on the Gulf countries because it is known that the oil production passes through the Strait of Hormuz to Africa, to Asia, and to the whole world. Its harm will not be limited to Iraq but it will affect all the Gulf countries, the big industrial countries and the firendly countries in Asia and Africa in addition to the eastern countries.

This matter is very grave, so I do not think that it will only be limited to the stance of the Gulf countries. What is feared is that the superpowers will interfere when this situation may become undesirable. Therefore we hope that Iran will not think of blocking the Gulf with the aim of harming Iraq. This will not harm Iraq since it will harm Iran and countries that are friendly with Iran more than it harms Iraq. This may also harm industrial countries which are in need of oil where such countries will be obliged to undertake measures which we do not want to happen in our region and close to our coasts in any way.

Venezuelan Energy Minister Arrives in Riyadh

LD230454 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2120 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Riyadh 22 Oct (SPA) — The Venezuelan minister of energy and mines, Jose Ignacio Moreno Leon, arrived tonight in Riyadh on a visit to the Kingdom during which he will hold talks with officials at the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Affairs concerning petroleum affairs. He was welcomed at the airport by the minister of petroleum and mineral affairs Ahmad Zaki Yamani and a number of officials at the ministry.

In a statement to SPA the Venezuelan minister said that during his visit to the Kingdom he will discuss with the minister of petroleum and mineral affairs topics to be dealt with by the market and monitoring committee during its meeting in Vienna this coming Thursday, as well as matters of mutual interest.

Moreno described his country's relations with the Kingdom as excellent and well established in all fields, particularly in the field of petroleum and mineral resources.

The Venezuelan minister pointed out in reply to a question on the possibility that the market committee would discuss the possibility of an adjustment in the prices of petroleum and the production ceiling, that this matter is unlikely.

Concerning his visits to Algeria and Libya, Mr Moreno said that his talks with the oil ministers of those countries were centered on the situation of the oil market and the important matters of concern to the OPEC countries. The Venezuelan minister's tour includes the UAE and Kuwait in addition to Algeria, Libya, and the Kingdom.

Yamani, Leon Discuss Oil

LD231536 Riyadh SPA in English 1215 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Riyadh, Oct 23 SPA — Venezuelan energy minister Jose Ignacio Moreno Leon conferred here today with Saudi Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Ahmed Zaki Yamani on oil issues of common interest. The meeting was attended by Saudi Deputy Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister 'Abd al-Aziz at-Turki and a number of high ranking officials.

Leon arrived here last night on his first visit to Saudi Arabia. Earlier, he visited Algeria and Libya, as part of a tour which will also take him to the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait.

After the meeting, Yamani said his talks with Leon dealt with oil matters relating to production, the situation in the international market, and OPEC's problems, as well as stands toward the oil situation now and in the future.

UAE

Reaction to Beirut Blast Incident Noted

GF251212 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0810 GMT 25 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 25 Oct (WAKH) — Three UAE papers have stressed that the policy of threats and movements of the U.S. fleets will neither solve the problems nor lead to any result. The papers were commenting on the U.S. reaction to the blasts which took place yesterday at the headquarters of the U.S. and the French units that work within the Multinational Force in Lebanon.

Al-Ittihad said that reinforcement of the Marine forces by ships, aircraft carriers, and landing crafts is merely putting things in the wrong places. The paper stressed that the massing of this huge force along the Lebanese coast is not a phenomenon of power as much as being a weak point in the U.S. policy and position throughout the Arab World.

Al-Wahdah set a condition saying that if the White House wants to rescue the lives of the U.S. Marines in the next stage and to rescue Lebanon, then it has to move in the direction of driving Israel out of southern Lebanon. The paper continued by saying that this will put things in the proper places where the non-Lebanese forces, including the Marines, will withdraw from Lebanon. The paper pointed out that without this, the Multinational Force will become a side in the conflict.

Al-Khalij warned against the U.S. threats saying that the presence of these forces — in addition to the presence of the French, and Italian forces — implies further U.S. and European involvement not only in Lebanon but in further Arab disputes. The paper referred to the U.S. measures and to the Western contacts saying that these reflect the violent nature toward the region which entails holding Arab contacts on the most senior levels in order to build up an Arab position toward the United States and toward any other power.

Reagan's Reaction to Beirut Bombing Viewed

GF251824 Abu Dhabi Al-Ittihad in Arabic 24 Oct 83 p 1

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] When President Reagan interripted his weekend yesterday to face the television cameras, and when Defense Secretary Weinberger appeared on the program "Face the Nation" a few hours after the massacre of U.S. and French troops of the Multinational Force, the main concern of the two men was to stress the continued U.S. presence — in President Reagan's words — in this "strategically vital" area. At that emotional moment neither Reagan nor Weinberger talked — as they usually do — about the "maintenance of peace" as an important task of the Multinational Force, but they talked about the "presence" [of U.S. forces in Lebanon] and insisted on such presence more than at any other time in the past, and said that those who carried out the bomb attack wanted "to make them withdraw from Lebanon, and this they will not do."

Thus with great frankness Reagan yesterday talked about the real objective of the Multinational Force and the warships that have been gathering near the Lebanese coast. When such a presence becomes a demand, then it can only become one of the "occupations" from which Lebanon is suffering. All occupiers must expect the worst and must realize that the blood that was shed yesterday — whoever may have carried out the operation — was in the final analysis shed as a result of a decision by Washington which insists on staying and maintaining a presence in Lebanon because in its view — as Reagan said — Lebanon is a "strategically vital area" that deserves such sacrifices.

As an abstract humanitarian case, the American and French soldiers who lost their lives yesterday beneath the rubble deserve compassion. It is not they who made the decision — their presence in Lebanon was decided by their governments. There is no reason to gloat over the incident. However, the humanitarian situation of these soldiers and their bereaved families should not make us forget the political decision behind the disaster: the decision to intervene, and the ambitions of these countries and their attempts to expand their influence — ambitions and attempts that brought to thousands of Lebanese and Palestinian families calamities that were greater than what happened yesterday.

Who was responsible for the incident? This is a question to which the news we have heard so far do not provide an answer — despite the accusations that were hastily made by the U.S. secretary of defense without any proof. However, we say that those who carried out this action are not necessarily "enemies of the United States." For some "there is love that can kill."

YAR

Justice Minister Receives Soviet Counterpart

GF252000 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Justice Minister Muhsin al-'Ulufi today received Soviet Justice Minister Vladimir Terebilov, who is currently visiting the republic. During the meeting issues of mutual interest were discussed, foremost of which was the Arab Palestinian people's issue and the Palestinian people's just struggle to restore their usurped rights, in addition to worldwide liberation issues and cooperation in providing the means to combat crime.

Soviet justice minister Terebilov arrived in San'a' this morning leading a delegation of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African countries, on a few days' visit to the YAR, during which he will meet with officials of the Yemeni Peace and Solidarity Council and hold talks with them on strengthening ties on international peace issues.

In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY, he expressed his happiness about this visit, especially since Yemeni-Soviet relations and friendship and cooperation relations are 55 years old this year, and these relations have served the interests of both countries. He said that this visit will be a chance to become acquainted with the accomplishments achieved by YAR in various development fields.

In his statement, the Soviet justice minister said that the Soviet Union respects our country's nonaligned and independent policy under the leadership of brother leader Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, secretary general of the General People's Congress. He said during his visit he will discuss with the concerned officials the issues of mutual interest in particular, and the situation in the Arab region in general.

He was welcomed by Ahmad Luqman, minister of state, chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, and chairman of the Yemeni Peace and Solidarity Council; Yahya al-Hakim, under secretary of labor, social affairs and youth; the Soviet ambassador in San'a'; and a number of officials.

Mubarak Meets With Top Political Advisers

NC261053 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 26 Oct (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak held an important political meeting with his political advisers this morning at the Al-'Urubah Palace. Attending the meeting were Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, the prime minister; Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production; and Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs. The latest developments in the situation as well as events that emerged recently in the region will be discussed during the meeting.

Mubarak Inaugurates Two Antisubmarine Units

NC251403 Cairo MENA in English 1350 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Alexandria, Oct 25 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak today raised Egypt's flag over two new anti-submarine naval units to mark their joining of naval combat formations. Marking the Egyptian Navy Day, President Mubarak inaugurated the navigational route of Abu Qir Naval Port which is one of the accomplishments of the Naval Forces. The president also laid down the foundation stone of the administrative establishments of the new port.

President Husni Mubarak later met with commanders of the Naval Force and expounded in [word indistinct] Egypt's foreign and home policy and developments of the Mideast situation in the light of the new developments in Lebanon.

The meeting was attended by Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah, Deputy Premier and Minister of Defence and Military Production, Lieutenat General Ibrahim al-'Urabi, chief of staff of the armed forces, and Rear Admiral 'Ali Tawfiq Jad. The meeting was also attended by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, Speaker of the People's Assembly Dr Sufi Abu Talib, Speaker of the Shura (Consultative) Council Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim and a number of the commanders of the navy.

Remarks to Naval Personnel

NC251715 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1556 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Alexandria, 25 Oct (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has declared that Egypt supports the Palestinian people's rights on the basis that the Palestinian question is the main and most important question in the Middle East. He said this does not conflict with the graveness and importance of the Lebanese question.

During his meeting today with Naval Forces commanders and officers, the president said the Naval Forces are the shield of our nation protecting the people's gains and defending the homeland. President Mubarak further said he was happy to participate with the Naval Forces in the inauguration of the first stage of Abu Qir port, which is considered a vital and important achievement in the realization of the aims of naval strategy and in serving the Egyptian economy.

President Husni Mubarak then replied to the naval officers' and commanders' questions. In his answers, he discussed Egypt's Arab policy, explaining that Egypt supports the Palestinian people's rights, that it considers the Palestinian question the main and most important question in the Middle East, and that this does not conflict with the gravity and importance of the Lebanese question.

He explained the effects of Arab differences on the achievement of a just and comprehensive solution to the area's problems.

The president also discussed Egypt's relations with the two superpowers. He asserted that Egypt is the master of its will, that no force can influence its decision, and that Egypt's sublime interests govern all decisions.

In his answers, President Husni Mubarak explained the goals of the 5-year economic and social plan in the agricultural and industrial production sectors. He discussed investments allocated for modification and modernization projects, as well as for replacements, renewals, and scientific research. He said: We seek to achieve the maximum possible increase in production to cover the needs of the citizens and the homeland, and to achieve gradual self-dependence and a surplus for exporting.

President Mubarak said during the meeting that he is interested in realizing the aims of development and that this is the reason for his continuous visits to production sites, in both the public and private sectors.

The president explained the procession of democracy, asserting that Egypt is living in the most flourishing age of democracy and of freedom of opinion and speech. It is a procession unprecedented in any state in our region, both in its application through the multiplicity of parties and the freedom of opinion, and in the freedom enjoyed by the press. Ours is the only press in the region that exercises the full freedom guaranteed by the Constitution and the law.

In conclusion, the naval forces commander thanked President Mubarak, the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, for meeting with his sons, the Naval Forces officers. He stressed their spirit of loyalty and sacrifice for the sake of Egypt.

Mubarak Speaks About Production, Economy

NC221339 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0920 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 22 Oct (MENA) — Following the departure of Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu today, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak told journalists that Egyptian-Romanian relations are strong and good and that there is cooperation in several fields.

Answering a question on domestic matters in Egypt, President Mubarak affirmed that during his tenure in office he is concentrating on all that is of interest to the broad base of the people.

Concerning the economic situation, the president said that there has been an improvement in our economy, the effects of which will not appear overnight but in 2 or 3 years. The president affirmed that there is emphasis on implementing and carrying on the state's 5-year plan, the first year of which completely fulfilled its objective. We are now in the second year of the plan and we are continuing our close attention to ensure that the plan will achieve its objectives.

Concerning the state's production plan, the president said there has been an increase in agricultural and industrial production. He added: This is what I am seeking, an increase in production. He said that during his inspection tours he has been following with great interest the development and progress made in the agricultural and industrial fields. Concerning bread, the president said we are thinking of a better way to ensure that subsidized bread reaches those who deserve it and not those who exploit it for other projects, such as fodder and confection uses.

Asked about the reason for his repeated visists to production sites, the president said that the purpose of these visits is to follow up the improvement and progress made in these projects. If no improvement has occurred following his first visit, he will take action. He said he would tell every official that he should shoulder his responsibility in his position. He added that during his recent visit to the textile factory in Hulwan he witnessed tangible progress. He said: This is what I want because it is in the interest of the people.

Concerning the ready-made clothing factory which will be set up in Port Said in cooperation with Romania, the president said Port Said is intended to be a site for export-oriented production and not for sending goods to the local market or for smuggling, because that is unreasonable and consequently would adversely affect the Egyptian economy and harm the people.

'Ali Urges U.S., French Self-Restraint

NC251657 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1553 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 25 Oct (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today submitted a report to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak containing the results of the study and evaluation prepared by his ministry and the ideas reached concerning specific Egyptian diplomatic steps for facing the situation in the Middle East, the various outcomes, and their impact on the area.

This was stated today by 'Ali following a series of important and intensive meetings held at the Foreign Ministry and attended by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, to prepare a comprehensive study and an urgent evaluation of the situation in the Middle East and of the escalating tension in the area in light of the recent events in Lebanon and the situation on the Iraqi-Iranian front, as well as of the diplomatic steps Egypt might take to face the situation and the various developments in the area.

'Ali said the meetings were held with the aim of following up and assessing the various aspects of the situation in the area in light of the Beirut events and the outcome of the contacts Egypt has held with the United States and France. He said that during these contacts Egypt affirmed the importance of self-restraint and the need for finding a quick solution to all aspects of the Middle East problems, because leaving the situation without a solution is like a time bomb that can explode at any moment.

Meanwhile, 'Ali had formed a working group at the Foreign Ministry that works around the clock to follow up the situation. He also contacted Egyptian Ambassador in Washington Dr Ashraf Ghurbal on the current tense and deteriorating situation in the Middle East.

Muhyi ad-Din on U.S. Role, Iranian Threat

GF251458 Kuwait Al-Anba' in Arabic 23 Oct 83 p 18

[Exclusive statement by Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din to *Al-Anba'* correspondent in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] Regarding the U.S. Role and the impossibility of decisive progress in the region before the U.S. elections, Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din said concrete steps by the U.S. side are necessary according to the basic role which should be played by the United States in order to reach decisive settlements or at least in order to help in taking these concrete steps. He said: However, this matter to a great extent is dependent on the U.S. elections, and for this reason Egypt has called for adopting a unified Arab position toward the proposed initiatives and plans.

The matter of inviting Egypt to attend the Arab summit with the aim of developing joint common Arab action that is directed at confronting threats to the Arab nation should be viewed as a necessary measure. The Egyptian prime minister said that all the plans which were proposed recently, including the French-Egyptian plan, the Camp David accord, or Resolution No 242, are still in existence irrespective of the parties which prepared them, and they are ready to be discussed at the negotiating table or in any form of dialogue between the parties concerned or the two countries concerned.

Regarding the threat which could be carried out by Iran, especially after the U.S. move in the Gulf, Dr Muhyi ad-Din said that Iran may do other unnecessary things. The fate of the five Super Etendard airplanes will be have the same as that of the Iraqi nuclear reactor. Regarding what Egypt would do if things become complicated and if Iran constitutes a threat not only to Iraq but also to all the Gulf states, Dr Muhyi ad-Din said: It is difficult to foresee events. Such a matter will not occur, but if it happens the situation will be accurately discussed in light of the events.

Commenting on Egyptian-Syrian relations, he said: It is premature to speak about that comprehensively. There are indirect contacts with the Syrian side, but results from these contacts will take time. He said that the dialogue leaves every party at liberty to express its opinion on anything that is in favor of the Arab nation and in favor of the Palestinian issue in particular on the basis that this issue is viewed as the first issue of priority. He said that the dialogue with Syria should not be ignored.

Regarding rumors that Iran was behind the moves of the Islamic Liberation Party, he said: These matters are under investigation by the prosecutor general. However, in fact, the moves of the Islamic Liberation Party were made from one of the party's bases in Jordan. He said: There are relations between Iran and some who are carrying out sabotage activities in Egypt. But we have to wait for the final results of investigation before we decide the source of financing and its connection with any country or foreign party.

Ghali News Conference on Current Issues
NC252207 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2020 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 15 Oct (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has emphasized that Egypt is convinced that the solution of the Middle East problem lies in the need to solve the Palestinian issue, which is the crux and basis of the problem. Speaking at a news conference held at the Foreign Correspondents Club this evening, Ghali said Egypt also believes that the solution of the Lebanese issue must come through the implementation of the UN resolutions, especially Resolutions 508 and 509, which provide for the Israeli forces' withdrawal from Lebanon.

Dr Ghali described the attack on the U.S. and French troops in Beirut the day before yesterday as a dreadful act. He said that Egypt is opposed to violence and terror and that it believes problems must be resolved through peaceful means.

Dr Butrus Ghali pointed out that the Multinational Forces came to Lebanon at the request of the legitimate authorities there to keep the peace and to safeguard the existing authority. He said: In Egypt, we too have a multinational force in Sinai.

Dr Ghali expressed his regret that the information media in the world did not mention, during the past 2 days and since the Beirut incident, the main reason for the tension in the area. He said: I repeat and emphasize that the main problem in the Middle East — which must be quickly solved — is the Palestinian issue, and unless this issue is solved there can be no stability and peace in the area.

At his news conference, Dr Ghali emphasized that the Palestinian problem must be solved and a new atmosphere created in the region to eliminate terrorism and establish stability.

Asked Egypt's opinion on France's supply of aircraft to Iraq, Dr Ghali said: What I know is that we support the supply of the Super Etendard aircraft. This will increase [Iraq's] military strength and help in resolving the Iraqi-Iranian bloodshed.

On the joint Egyptian-U.S. maneuvers, Dr Ghali said: Egypt does not object to conducting joint maneuvers with any state so long as they do not contradict the principles of the Nonaligned Movement. We believe joint maneuvers enhanse our forces' training capability.

Asked about Egypt's attitude toward the forthcoming Arab summit conference, Dr Butrus Ghali said: We do not expect anything specific with regard to Egyptian-Arab relations. We do not know even if the conference will be held or not. He affirmed that Egypt welcomes any step taken by Arab brothers. Arab solidarity will triumph over any differences, and Arab relations will be restored sooner or later.

Replying to a question about the Israeli settlements, Dr Ghali said that the Camp David agreement provided for halting the construction of settlements. The Arab situation has not changed since then. Egypt has repeatedly called for halting the construction of settlements and conveyed its views officially to the United States in 1978 and 1980. He pointed out that Egypt adheres to the same opinion: the halting of the building of settlements so that a favorable atmosphere can created for the participation of the Palestinians in negotiations.

Dr Butrus Ghali added: There are two basic reasons behind our attitude toward the settlements. They are unlawful and illegal. Moreover, they create a major obstacle to peace and will continue to create an atmosphere of nonconfidence among the Palestinians, without whose participation no negotiations will succeed.

Dr Ghali affirmed that these settlements are also one of the obstacles to the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv in addition to the atmosphere now prevailing in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip as a result of Israel's inhumane practices, which are contrary to human rights. Butrus Ghali pointed out that Egypt has been explaining all matters pertaining to the settlements on the international level. This is an extremely important matter, he said.

On Soviet-Egyptian relations, Dr Butrus Ghali said, "We still hope they will improve. We have economic and cultural relations with the USSR. We hope that sooner or later ambassadors will be exchanged, but I cannot set a date for that." He added that Egypt always works to bolster relations with all countries.

On the restoration of diplomatic relations between Egypt and Bulgaria and Cyprus, Dr Ghali reaffirmed Egypt's desire for good relations with all countries, Bulgaria or Cyprus or any other country. He added: "We are a nonaligned country and we care about good relations with all parties. But the restoration of relations hinges on the mutual desire of both sides and the right moment. It is not an arithmetic operation; it is governed by a mutual desire."

Replying to another question on Egyptian-Arab relations, Dr Ghali said that there is an Egyptian presence in all Arab countries. Meetings have taken place at ministerial level between Egypt and a number of Arab countries. There have also been meetings between President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and a number of presidents. He added that diplomatic representation was the last step and the Arabs should (?take the first) step toward the restoration of diplomatic relations. If they decide to send ambassadors, Egypt will welcome them. We believe that [words indistinct] Arab solidarity will overcome all problems.

Asked if there were any contacts between Egypt and Saudi Arabia, Libya, and Syria, he replied: "I have said and repeat: with most of the Arab countries."

Asked about the events in Lebanon, Dr Butrus Ghali said that the events of the past few days are a blow to the peace process. We were one of the countries that called for the creation of the Multinational Forces in Beirut and Sinai. He added: We believe that these forces can help bolster the legitimate authorities in Beirut and safeguard its political independence. This is our political position. We still say that America's participation as a full partner in the peace process is an extremely important matter for solving the Middle East problem.

Asked about America's attitude toward the Palestinians and the PLO, Dr Ghali said this attitude has not changed. It is based on the PLO's recognition of Israel. As to Egypt's position, it has been clear and declared since 1977: Through the mutual recognition of Israel and the Palestinians, a dialogue can be held.

Since 1977, he said, Egypt has called on all the parties to attend the meetings held at Mena House Hotel out of our faith in this attitude. But we have not succeeded. Our failure prevents us from continuing to push forward. We believe that through mutual recognition and dialogue a solution can be found to the Palestine problem.

Concerning the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, Dr Ghali said: We hope contacts between Jordan and the Palestinians will be resumed to give an impetus to the peace process.

An Arab journalist said to Dr Butrus Ghali: But Yasir 'Arafat has declared his agreement with all the UN resolutions and consequently this means indirect recognition of Israel. Thus Israel has no excuse in this regard.

Dr Ghali replied: I know what Yasir 'Arafat has said. American Congressman McCloskey acquainted me with Yasir 'Arafat's views a few hours after their meeting. Yet only a few hours later 'Arafat's representative at the United Nations said something to the contrary.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Discusses Beirut Bombings

NC252253 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 25 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the title "Israel Is the One To Benefit From the Massacre," *Al-Jumhuriyah* quotes Abba Eban, the former Israeli foreign minister, as saying that Menahem Begin's resignation from his post as the prime minister was a result of the failure of the Israeli adventure in Lebanon. Eban regretted the fact that Begin's successor, Shamir, has decided to continue Begin's policy, which has failed.

Al-Jumhuriyah says: Despite the burden of the de facto occupation of Lebanese territory, Israel has not been able to achieve its objectives because of many factors, including the violent resistance by the Lebanese Nationalist Forces, which reject the occupation. The paper explains that this failure might shed some light on the anonymous perpetrator who blew up the commands of the U.S. and French forces assigned the task of peace-keeping in Lebanon, at the time when the warring Lebanese factions were on their way to the table of national reconciliation in Geneva.

In conclusion, *Al-Jumhuriyah* says: Israel is the one which benefits from provoking the superpowers — such as the United States and France — and impelling them toward more involvement in the Lebanese war and from turning upside down the table of the Lebanese reconciliation so that the Lebanese may resort again to arms at a time when Israel is arranging its internal conditions, settling its economic crisis, and starting to swallow up Lebanon at any price.

Energy Minister on Accords With Finland, Sweden

NC241038 Cairo MENA in English 0950 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct 24 (MENA) — Minister of Power and Energy Mahir Abaza returned home this morning from Stockholm with his accompanying delegation at the end of a ten-day tour of Finland and Sweden. Abaza said he signed in Finland a protocol on bilateral technical cooperation in the fields of energy whereby Finland offers Egypt a five-million Finnish Markkaa grant to boost the unified power grid at the republic's level. Finland will also supply Egypt with sophisticated equipment and will finance studies on the designs of power transformer stations, he said.

On the visit of the Egyptian delegation to Sweden, Abaza said a protocol has been signed on bilateral cooperation in the field of energy and to finance technical studies in this respect. The Swedish Government agreed in principle on offering Egypt a seven and a half million Swedish Krona grant, to set up a training centre for Egyptian engineers and technicians in Aswan, and also to finance a number of projects within the five-year plan, he added. The protocol also comprises cooperation in the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, Abaza said.

Concluding, Abaza said Swedish technicians also agreed to complete a technical report on the economic feasibility of the Qattara depression project before the end of this year. Sweden is financing studies on the project, he added.

Finnish Newspaper Report

PM201233 Helsinki Hufvudstadsbladet in Swedish 15 Oct 83 p 15

[Unattributed report: "Egypt Wants Advice on Nuclear Power"]

[Text] Egypt is interested in expert help from Finland in the implementation of a comprehensive nuclear power program, said Egyptian Electricity and Energy Minister Mahir Abaza, who is visiting Helsinki at present.

On Friday Finland and Egypt signed a framework agreement for energy cooperation. The framework specifies in general terms the areas of cooperation in which Egypt is interested.

According to Abaza, it is up to Finland which area will be developed. During his visit Abaza has visited Olkiluoto and Lovisa nuclear power stations. However, Abaza said that nuclear power was not discussed during this week-long visit.

Before the end of the century Egypt will build eight nuclear power stations.

Abaza returns to Egypt on Sunday.

Higher Council for Integration Committee Meets

NC221540 Cairo MENA in English 1520 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct. 22 (MENA) — Dr. Kamal al-Janzuri, minister of planning, conferred here today with Abu Bakr 'Uthman, secretary general of the Higher Council for Integration, and Major General 'Abd as-Sattar Amin, assistant secretary general of the council, on means of unifying the planning, economic and financial concepts between Egypt and the Sudan. The meeting also dealt with following up work of the planning, financial, and economic committee emanating from the Higher Council of Integration in the light of the resolutions of the Higher Council for Integration so as to prepare for the committee's forthcoming meeting in Khartoum in the second half of January.

Council Secretary Assesses Activities

JN231812 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1515 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 23 Oct (MENA) — Abu Bakr 'Uthman Salih, secretary general of the Higher Integration Council, has affirmed that integrated action between Egypt and Sudan is the basic mainstay of economic and social development and a step toward achieving comprehensive unity. During a meeting he held today which was attended by Major General 'Abd as-Sattar Amin, assistant secretary general of the Council, and 'Abd ar-Rahman Salman, ambassador of Sudan in Cairo, 'Uthman said that an information bank will be established to contain all integration activities and aspects of life in Egypt and Sudan within the framework of information exchange between the two countries in order to provide the citizens of the two countries with as much information as possible.

'Uthman added that the general secretariat in the two countries does not replace the two governments or diplomatic representation between them; it assumes its responsibilities in its capacity as an institution that serves the integration activities and implements the objectives of the charter which was concluded last year.

Ambassador Salman said that the number of the Sudanese visiting Egypt has increased during the past period. They amounted about 700,000 citizens after the measures which were taken to remove all the obstacles hampering the movement of the citizens between the two countries.

Protocol on GDR Agricultural Aid Signed

NC231031 Cairo MENA in English 0950 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct 23 (MENA) — The East German minister of agriculture and forestry left here today following a week long visit to Egypt. The German minister conveyed a message from East German President Erich Honecker to President Husni Mubarak. The East German minister signed a protocol on cooperation with state minister for Agriculture and Food Security Dr Yusuf Amin Wali. Under the protocol East Germany will extend technical aid to Egypt in the field of agricultural mechanization and the training of agronomists. The protocol also provides for exchanging agricultural products between Egypt and Germany and promoting cooperation.

Opposition Parties Issue List of Demands

PM241004 Cairo Al-Ahrar in Arabic 17 Oct 83 p 6

[Ihsan 'Abd al-Maqsud report: "Opposition Parties Call for End to State of Emergency and Reinstatement of Mosque Imams and Pope Shanudah"]

[Text] The opposition parties held a press conference last Saturday at the Liberal Party headquarters in Cairo. It was attended by Liberal Party leader Ibrahim Shukri; Al-Ummah Party leader Ahmad as-Sabahi; National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party [NPUG] Assistant Secretary General Lutfi Wakid; LSP deputy leader Engineer Hasan Durrah; Lawyer 'Abu al-Fadl al-Jizawi; LSP Secretariat member Ibrahim Yunis, and *Ash-Sha'b* Chief Editor Hamid Zaydan. At the conference a statement was issued on behalf of the Committee of Egyptian Nationalist Forces for the Defense of Democracy. The following is the text of the statement as delivered by 'Abu al-Fadl al-Jizawi at the press conference:

Egypt, as an Arab and Islamic center, is facing numerous internal and external perils. The only way to ward off these perils is through participation by all Egyptian patriotic forces and groups, without exception, in a true democracy.

It was on this basis that representatives of the opposition parties and Egyptian patriotic personalities met and discussed the current threats to the democratic process. They were particularly appalled by the following:

1. The continuation of the freedom-restricting special laws.

2. The extention of the Emergency Law.

3. The introduction of electoral systems unheard of in any other democratic country.

4. The increasing close links between the ruling party and government departments.

5. The public's refusal to subscribe to a farcical political formula as reflected by its boycott of the recent Consultative Council elections.

6. The government's adamant refusal to carry out the rulings passed by the Egyptian judiciary. In doing so the government has set a bad example of disrespect for the law.

7. The executive authority's breach of human rights, reflected especially in the increasing torture of political detainees.

Out of our sense of responsibility toward the Egyptian people, the Arab nation, and the Islamic world, our faith in the Constitution, and our conviction that continuation of the democratic process is the way to salvation, we request the following:

1. Respect for the Constitution through reactivation of the suspended provisions, especially Article 2 on Islamic shari'a as a main source of legislation and equality of all citizens before the law.

2. Immediate abolition of the state of emergency and the freedom-restricting laws, particularly the laws on political parties, the protection of the domestic front, social peace, ethics, and political isolation. This falls within the responsibility of the president of the republic in his capacity as the official responsible for ensuring the people's sovereignty, respect for the Constitution, and rule of the law.

3. Reinstatement of the mosque imams who have been banished from their mosques and reinstatement of Pope Shanudah in his papal post, reinstatement of the Christian men of religion in their church positions, and lifting of all restrictions on their religious practices.

4. Abolition of the electoral system based on absolute party lists and conditional proportional lists and promulgation of a new law in line with the Constitution which guarantees equality of all Egyptians in the unconditional exercise of their political rights including the right of independent candidates to stand for nomination to all elected councils. The promulgation of such a law is a prior condition without which the political parties will not be able to take part in the forthcoming People's Assembly elections.

5. Freedom for all national and social forces to form political parties and unrestricted and unhampered freedom for the press, including publication, ownership, and distribution.

6. State commitment to equality for all parties and legal forums in the use of the official media, namely the press, radio, and television.

7. Introduction of guarantees for impartial and honest elections by giving exclusive supervision to the judiciary bodies specified in the Constitution, with the government taking a neutral stand and the civil registration department issuing the electoral lists.

8. Respect for the law and the sanctity of judiciary rulings, and allowing publication of the magazines banned under republican decree No 494 for the year 1981. These magazines are: *Ad-Da'wah*, *Al-Mukhtar al-Islami*, *Al-I'tisam*, *Watani*. Already there are court decisions allowing the return of these magazines. Publication should also be allowed of all the magazines suspended by administrative orders, such as *At-Tali'ah*, *Al-Katib* and *Al-Wadi*.

The conferees have decided to consider themselves as a permanent Committee for the Defense of Freedom and Democracy because they believe that democracy is the legal and peaceful way to solve the people's economic and social problems and face foreign challenges.

The conferees have also elected, from among themselves, an Executive Secretariat to work out ways of following up and implementing these demands.

The conferees are confident that the people support these legal demands and those who defend them, and they are prepared to continue the march toward their implementation.

May God grant us all success in the interest of Egypt, Arabism, and Islam. (Hold on to God's way and never be divided.)

Armed Forces Issue Communique No 1,259

JN251734 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Communique No 1,259 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 25 Oct 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. If ye will aid the cause of God, He will aid you, and plant your feet firmly. [Koranic verse]

Whenever charlatan Khomeyni's henchmen are obsessed by thoughtlessness and barbarism and whenever they escalate their blatant aggression against capable Iraq with a view to harming its great people and lofty edifice, they find the Iraqis' deterrent, destructive blows get stronger, tougher, and more painful. Such blows will, with God's help, inflict further woes and destruction on the enemy. The results of the activities carried out in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our valiant units pounded the enemy positions and units opposite our positions in the I Army Corps sector, killing or wounding a number of troops and destroying quantities of weapons and military equipment. Our forward units opened fire on an enemy concentration elsewhere in the same sector, killing eight, wounding others, and destroying five vehicles —two of which were carrying personnel —and one excavator.

2. Today our capable fighter planes carried out successful raids against the enemy positions and troop concentrations in the northern sector of the battlefield, scoring direct and effective hits, and inflicting large losses in men and equipment. Our bold helicopter gunships also attacked the enemy concentrations and vehicles in the same sector, scoring accurate hits and inflicting large losses. The known losses are six large vehicles loaded with hardware and personnel, one tank, two armored personnel carriers, two 106-mm guns, and several enemy troop concentrations. All our fighter planes and helicopter gunships returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. Two were killed, and one vehicle and one infantry position destroyed east of Basra.

4. One was killed and one hardware stockpile destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

5. Three observation posts were destroyed in the Maysan sector.

Today the criminal Khomeyniite clique shelled Mandali and the villages of Khurmal and Sayyid Sadiq and their suburbs with artillery, damaging some civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 october 1983

19,239 Iranians Reported Killed in Battles

JN252046 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2030 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Oct (INA) — It was announced here tonight that the Iranian forces' losses during the past 5 days' battles in the northern sector of the battlefield, as counted by a competent committee, amounted to 19,239 killed and thousands wounded, in addition to what was announced in the previous communiques. [passage indistinct]

Officers Expect New Iranian Offensive

JN252032 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The INA team in the northern sector of the battlefield has witnessed the abject defeat our valiant forces inflicted on the sinister Iranian enemy following its treacherous offensive on the night of 23-24 October.

An officer in the battlefield told the team that the enemy is now reassembling and organizing its remnants, which were dispersed in the region's valleys and mountains under our forces' heavy concentrated fire and firm confrontation. He added that all our formations are enjoying high morale and increasing enthusiasm to confront the enemy and inflict massive losses on its forces. He indicated that the rocket launchers, artillery, helicopter gunships, and fighter planes today dealt successful blows to the enemy's vital targets and rear concentrations, spreading confusion and chaos among its defeated forces.

A high-ranking officer in the Ar-Rashid forces told the team that available information indicates that the enemy is preparing for a new offensive after it has added fresh troops and divisions to what is left of its concentrations, which were scattered and put into disorder under our smashing blows. He emphasized that the destiny of this offensive will be worse than that of the two previous ones, as the enemy will see when the fighting comes. He said that the suspect Iranian regime sends very large waves of misled people to the crematorium of war in an irresponsible manner. This, he added, proves this regime's sway over the Iranian people who are afflicted by charlatan Khomeyni and his suspect clique.

The team met with a high-ranking Air Force officer elsewhere on the battlefront. He talked about the special heroic operations carried out by the helicopter gunships. He said that after midnight on 24 October several helicopter formations flew over the enemy forces, performed extraordinary heroic duties, and helped foil the enemy advance. Our helicopter formations continued their combat missions until yesterday evening.

He said that the pilots of the Ar-Rashid helicopters did not give the enemy any chance to avoid the destruction and annihilation of its concentrations, human waves, armor, and vehicles. He stressed that the enemy did not manage to hit any of our helicopter gunships, which valiantly destroyed the enemy positions before returning safely to base.

Military Spokesman Sums Up Iranians Losses

JN252150 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2110 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. And we rained down on them a shower of brimstone: Then see what was the end of those who indulged in sin and crime. [Koranic verse]

O glorious Iraqis, O heroic sons of our Armed Forces, O gallants in the I Army Corps operational sector: Blessed be your brave historic stand against the ill wind blowing from Iran, and blessed be your fighting against the forces of grudge, tyranny, and aggression. You have rubbed the faces of charlatan Khomeyni and his clique of greedy and suspect henchmen in the mud and upheld Iraq's name. You have really been the guards of the eastern flank of the great Arab homeland.

O sons of our proud people: The Iranian enemy losses during the past 5 days' battles in the I Army Corps sector, as counted by a special committee set up for this purpose and in addition to what was mentioned in our previous communiques, amounted to 12,161 killed, thousands wounded, and a large number captured.

The total enemy losses in the I Army Corps operational sector, as mentioned in our previous communiques, amounted to 7,078 killed; a large number wounded; scores captured; 24 tanks, 15 armored personnel carriers, 71 vehicles —15 of which were loaded with personnel —8 excavators, and 15 guns destroyed; and large quantities of serviceable weapons, hardware, and military equipment seized.

Thus, the total losses the enemy sustained during its reckless adventure to cross our great borders in the I Army Corps sector on the night of 23-24 October 1983 and the subsequent days of the battle amount to 19,239 killed; thousands wounded; a large number of POW's captured; and 24 tanks, 15 of which were carrying personnel —8 excavators, and 15 guns destroyed.

This is what charlatan Khomeyni and his criminal henchmen reaped as the price for their attempt to attack our lofty country. They will only reap failure and destruction if recklessness persists in their rotten heads and if they try to attack once again.

May God bless our great people and the heroes of our forces and glorious nation. Disgrace, ignominy, and defeat to the covetous enemies. God is great and glory is our lot. It is God who grants victory.

25 October 1983

Japan Warned Bandar-e Khomeyni Port To Be Bombed

OW260939 Tokyo KYODO in English 0921 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Tokyo Oct 26 KYODO — Iraq informed Japan early Wednesday that it will bomb the Iranian port of Bandar-e Khomeyni, the site of a multibillion dollar Japanese Iranian petrochemical complex "on a highest decision by the leadership," the Foreign Ministry said.

The notice was conveyed in Baghdad by Foreign Vice Minister Muhammad al-Sashav to Japanese Ambassador to Iraq Keizo Kimura at 9 p.m. Tuesday local time (3 a.m. Wednesday Japan time), the ministry said.

The warning followed a Japanese request to Iraq Tuesday not to attack the 85 percent complete petrochemical complex at Bandar-e Khomeyni.

Earlier this week, Iraq said that it had mined the port of Bandar-e Khomeyni and told Japan that it will not exclude the complex from targets of its attacks in the war against Iran. The Iraqi vice minister said that the warning was made in view of the "favorable" relations with Japan, Foreign Ministry officials said. He was quoted as saying that Iraq had issued no warning to other countries involved in joint projects with Iran, before they were hit, prior to the actual operation. "This prior warning to Japan indicates that Iraq attaches importance to its relations with Japan and does not want to see blood of Japanese," Sashav was quoted as saying.

Kimura urged Sashav to reconsider the decision, but the vice minister stressed that the decision was made by the highest leadership after long consideration, according to the Foreign Ministry officials. "It is difficult to change the policy," he told the Japanese ambassador. A high ranking Foreign Ministry official said that the Iraqi warning may be part of a war of nerves, but added that he could not deny the possibility of an actual bombing of Bandar-e Khomeyni.

During another meeting held earlier in the day between Sashav and Kimura, the Iraqi. that Japan's request not to attack the petrochemical complex could not be complied with as Iraq is fighting for its very survival, according to the officials. [as received]

Appreciating the Japanese efforts for settlement of the Gulf war, Sashav told Kimura that the efforts should be directed to Iran which is willing to continue the war, and not to Iraq which wants to stop fighting.

In another development, Iranian Vice Oil Minister Mostafa Taheri-Najafabadi told Japanese Ambassador to Tehran Shotaro Takahashi that Iran will do its best to protect the petrochemical complex, according to the officials.

At the same time, Taheri, president of the Iran National Petroleum Corp., called on Japan for calmness, describing the present state as a war of nerves. The Iran-Japan petrochemical complex is being built by a consortium led by Japan's Mitsui group. The parties have agreed to resume construction next January. The work was suspended following the 1979 Islamic revolution and the Iran- Iraq war.

Ramadan's Tour of Gulf States Reported

JN252010 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1740 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Telephone dispatch from 'Ali Hashim, Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Muscat, on 25 October — recorded]

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan's visit to Muscat and the other capitals of the GCC states 2 days ago was not for picnicking or only for meeting the leaders of the Arab Gulf states. A senior

Gulf official described this visit as the most important one paid by a leading Iraqi official to the region because it constitutes a major development in the Gulf war and makes the Arab Gulf states adopt a new stand toward this war — a stand which will speed up an end to the war or expand it in such a way that will prompt the influential states to interfere and put pressure to bear on Iran, in one way or another, to halt the fighting and negotiate a peaceful settlement of the conflict. The senior Gulf official told Radio Monte Carlo that Ramadan conveyed messages from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to the Gulf leaders. In these messages, Saddam Hsuayn stressed that Iraq is holding out against the Iranian offensives and that there is no danger that Iraq, which is the northern gateway to the Gulf or the eastern gateway to the Arab homeland, will collapse.

The second point which Iraq wanted to emphasize in these messages is that the Iranian regime is adopting an adamant stand, is continuing its aggression, and will not accept any efforts to mediate an end to the war. According to the Iraqi president's opinion, this regime is seizing every mediation opportunity to launch a new aggression. This regime's recent offensive against the northern front came after the efforts that UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and Algeria exerted to revive mediation.

The third and more important point which the Iraqi president wanted to emphasize was to convince the Gulf states that the only way to force Iran to end the war is by using sophisticated weapons against it, particularly the French Super Etendards and Exocet missiles — weapons which the United States is pressing hard not to be delivered to Iraq or used against Iran under the pretext that these weapons may extend the war to the entire region or lead to the closing of the Strait of Hormuz, which is the Gulf's only outlet to the world and for the export of its oil.

Radio Monte Carlo has learned that the Gulf states are now almost convinced of Iraq's reasons. They agree with Iraq that the last cure is cauterization, as all other cures have been useless. Therefore, let cauterization, which is more painful and harmful, be the final cure in the hope that it will prove useful. Taha Yasin Ramadan did not return with a green light from the Gulf to use the sophisticated weapons. However, at least he explained the Iraqi viewpoint and put the Gulf states in the picture, if not face to face with the fait accompli, because dealing with Iran leniently and through negotiations is no longer effective. Therefore, a fatal blow may produce results. There are now questions about the Gulf states' stand on the Iraqi clarifications. After being informed of the Iraqi stand at Taha Yasin Ramadan's meetings or in messages conveyed to their leaders through diplomatic channels, the six GCC states — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the UAE, and Oman — are now holding intensified contacts to adopt a unified stand on the new Iraqi stand.

Sources from the GCC's General Secretariat say that this topic will be at the top of the agenda of the ministerial council, which comprises the foreign ministers and which will convene in Doha on 1 November 1983. This council will adopt a recommendation that will be submitted to the fourth Gulf summit, which is scheduled to convene on 7 November. The General Secretariat's sources do not rule out a summit resolution in favor of Iraq and in support of any Iraqi action, no matter how firm it is, because the GCC states, like Iraq, want an end to the war as soon as possible, regardless of the price. This means that the Gulf states, which have so far been hesitant to fully suppport Iraq, are now siding with the majority of states which support Iraq without reservation and which contribute to pushing forward the war with a view to inflicting huge losses on Iran — losses which might force it to end the war and hold negotiations under UN supervision.

UN Delegate's Letter on Gulf War Circulated

JN251445 Baghdad INA in English 1430 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] United Nations, Oct. 25, INA — The UN secretary-general today circulated as a document of both the Security Council and the General Assembly, a letter from Dr. Riyad al-Qaysi, Iraq's permanent representative to the United Nations, in which he draws attention to the large-scale Iranian military attack launched against Iraq with the apparent aim of penetrating Iraq's sovereign territory and occupying the town of Panjwin in the northern sector. Dr. Al-Qaysi points out that while Iraq is currently engaged in repelling the Iranian attack, the Government of Iraq reserves its right to strike at the Iranian aggressor wherever necessary in order to defend the sovereignty, security and vital interests of Iraq, and to make the Iranian aggressor understand that its futile attempts and persistence in prolonging the war against the will of the Security Council and the international community would not lead to the achievement of its sinister aims. The letter was circulated under the agenda item entitled consequences of the prolongation of the armed conflict between Iran and Iraq.

Trade Minister Confers With UAE Official

JN251552 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1350 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Oct (INA) — Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, met with 'Abd ar-Rahman Sa'id al-Ghanim, UAE economy and trade under secretary, and his delegation here today. The two sides discussed their economic and trade relations and the ways to promote them. They also reviewed what has been implemented of the economic, trade, and technical cooperation agreement concluded between the two countries in 1977, and dwelt on the topics to be discussed at the second session of the Iraqi-UAE joint committee.

Joint Committee Opens Session

JN251555 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1450 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Oct (INA) — The Iraqi-UAE joint committee for economic, trade, and technical cooperation began its second session here today under the chairmanship of Abu Talib 'Abd al-Muttalib, Iraqi trade under secretary, and 'Abd ar-Rahman Sa'id al-Ghanim, UAE economy and trade under secretary. Talks dealt with the ways to increase trade, exempt commodities and goods from custom duties, activate visits by trade delegations, and participate in the fairs set up in the two countries. The UAE delegation, led by 'Abd ar-Rahman Sa'id al-Ghanim, arrived here yesterday.

Foreign Ministry Statement on Envoy's Wounding

JN251650 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The Jordanian Foreign Ministry has issued the following statement:

Jordanian Ambassador in New Delhi Muhammad 'Ali Khurma was the target of a criminal attack in New Delhi this afternoon when an unidentified gunman fired several shots at him on his way home from the embassy. The ambassador was wounded in his right arm and leg. He was then carried to the hospital where he received the necessary medical treatment.

Our embassy in New Delhi informed us that the ambassador's condition is stable and he is improving.

Upon hearing of this criminal act, the Foreign Ministry held urgent contacts with the Indian Government in this regard. The Indian Government stressed to the Foreign Ministry that it is adopting all necessary measures to discover and punish the perpetrators of this criminal attempt on the ambassador's life.

The Jrodanian Foreign Ministry, which was pained by this treacherous attempt, expresses its strong denunciation of such vile attempts against defenseless diplomats performing their duties.

King Husayn Observes Tactical Exercise

JN251803 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn, the supreme commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, spent all day and night yesterday and today following up a tactical exercise carried out by a group of the Jordanian Armed Forces within the training plan of the Armed Forces.

The supreme commander arrived at the exercise area at noon yesterday where he was received by Staff General ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces; the chief of staff and his aides; and a number of high-ranking officers. His majesty was then briefed by a number of the exercise commanders about the standard of the combat preparedness of their units and the methods and plans which are applied to this tactical exercise.

Accompanied by the commander in chief and the chief of staff, the king then inspected the various units participating in the exercise and observed their work progress and preparations.

Since dawn, his majesty has been following the operations of this tactical exercise in which all units of the formations participated, along with Air Force planes which carried out air support operations. All units showed high efficiency and good training and planning standards, and performed their various tasks and duties accurately and successfully.

Husayn Receives Canadian Official 25 October

JN251334 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received at An-Nadwah Palace this afternoon Allan MacEachen, Canadian deputy prime minister and secretary of state for external affairs. They exchanged viewpoints on a number of international political issues and reviewed developments of the current Middle East situation in general and the situation of the Palestinian question in particular, developments in the Lebanese crisis, and the Iraq-Iran war.

Attending the meeting on the Jordanian side were the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the chief chamberlain, and the foreign minister. On the Canadian side, the meeting was attended by the accompanying delegation and the Canadian ambassador in Amman.

His majesty hosted a luncheon in honor of MacEachen. The luncheon was attended by the members of the two sides.

MacEachen Interview

JN260710 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Interview with Allan MacEachen, Canadian deputy prime minister and secretary of state for external affairs, by Jordan Television news editor 'Azzah 'Abd al-Majid on 25 October 1983 in Amman — recorded]

[Text]['Azzah] Sir, I would like to ask you about your visit to the Middle East. I know you visited Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, and now Jordan, I would like to ask about the main topics you discussed during these visits. And, does this visit indicate a change or a political move in the Canadian foreign policy?

[MacEachen] Well, I have returned to the Middle East for another visit. My last visit here was some years ago. This time the situation it seems is even more difficult than it was then — more tense, more troubled — and naturally our discussions centered on Lebanon, the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Palestinian problem, the occupied territories, the settlement policy, and the prospects for peace.

This does not represent a change in policy on the part of Canada. We have made a decision to attempt to improve our relations and maintain good relations with all states in the area — Arab states and Israel — and we have decided that though we are deeply interested in the outcome because of its potential for future peace in the Arab-Israeli conflict that we would not let that continuing difficulty prevent us from establishing and maintaining relations with states in the area; and my visit is intended to confirm that and to confirm Canada's interest in the region and its interest in doing what it can in supporting any move for peace that is agreeable to the parties involved.

['Azzah] Could you tell me something about Canadian attitude towards all these developments, towards the Palestinian question, the Middle East crisis, or the Israeli settlement policy?

[MacEachen] Well yes, I will tell you. On the Palestinians, the Palestinian problem, Canada believes that the Palestinians have legitimate rights and just requirements, that they have the right to participate in negotiations that will determine their future, that they have the right to a homeland on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Canada supported the Reagan plan, which called for some loose federation between Jordan and the West Bank — some form of federation. We are favorable to that if the negotiations led to an independent Palestinian entity. Canada would not object. In our view, the process of negotiations will have to be followed in order to reach a conclusion. What is the alternative to negotiation? More force? We do not like what is happening in Lebanon. We opposed and condemned the Israeli invasion; we asked them to withdraw. We do no like the settlement policy in the West Bank. We have said so.

We have always supported the resolutions of the United Nations which call for withdrawal from the occupied territories. We have also believed in the existence of Israel. It should be allowed to exist, like other states in the area — that it should not be kicked out of the United Nations or other international bodies. We have tried to have a balanced and fair approach to Middle Eastern problems. That is the Canadian view. I think it is a balanced view — one that can be defended.

['Azzah] We've been discussing bilateral relations here in Jordan. How do you view future relations with Jordan?

[MacEachen] We have an excellent atmosphere. We get along well with Jordan, Canada does, and we think we ought to be doing more together, trade more, and have more activity between us in order to strengthen the relationship.

['Azzah] Thank you very much.

[MacEachen] Thank you.

Iraqi-Jordanian Committee To Meet 24 Oct

JN221654 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] It was officially announced in Baghdad today that Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, will head the Iraqi side to the meetings of the joint Iraqi-Jordanian economic committee that will be held in Amman the day after tomorrow, Monday. An official source at the Iraqi Trade Ministery told a PETRA correspondent in Baghdad that a memorandum of cooperation will be signed during he meetings, which will be held in Amman. This memorandum will include the increase of the volume of trade exchange; the promotion of economic, trade, and technical relations; and the implementation of what was agreed on during the comittee's third session that was held in Baghdad in March.

Bush To Inspect Marines, Meet Al-Jumayyil

Arrives 26 October

NC260726 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0722 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] U.S. Vice President George Bush arrived at Beirut International Airport at 0850 today to meet with President al-Jumayyil and to inspect the Marine contingent of the Multinational Force in the wake of the two violent explosions at the U.S. and French contingents' headquarters.

More Bodies Recovered

NC260946 Beirut Domestic Service in Arbaic 0910 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Concerning the removal of debris and victims of the two explosions against the Marines and the French contingent, the latest figures of the French victims indicate that the number of martyrs is now 66. The rescue teams also recovered the bodies of Maya al-Hamawi, 2 and 1/2 years old, and Rima al-Hamawi, 13 years. They were the daughters of the guard at the [French] building.

Concerning the U.S. Marines, the civil defense directorate's operations room indicated that the U.S. officials today thanked the Lebanese civil defense and other Lebanese departments which contributed to the removal of the rubble. It was decided that the Americans themselves will follow up the removal of the debris to recover the remaining victims.

On the political level, we note that U.S. Vice President George Bush is at the Presidential Palace meeting with President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil.

Bush Leaves After Meeting

NC261000 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0933 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Dispatch by Joe Sa'adah from Presidential Palace — live]

[Excerpts] At 1110 U.S. Vice President George Bush left the Presidential Palace, after 1 hour and 10 minutes of talks with President al-Jumayyil. Mr Bush arrived at the Presidential Palace at 1000 amid strict security measures. He was accompanied by Marines Commander Paul Kelley, several senior officers, and the new U.S. ambassador in Beirut, Reginald Bartholomew.

We have no official information about the talks as yet although it is natural and logical that they dealt with the explosions against the U.S. and French contingents and their possible implications.

A U.S. presidential adviser has said that Mr Bush's aides were surprised when they were notified that they were leaving for Beirut and that we do not know much about the U.S. vice president's agenda.

Bush Holds News Conference

NC261028 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] U.S. Vice President Bush held a brief news conference for foreign correspondents at the site of the building that was destroyed by the explosion. He stressed that the United States will not abandon its friends because of terrorism. He said: We will not allow a group of cowardly terrorists to shake U.S. foreign policy and we will not allow terrorism to dictate our foreign policy, or to force us to change it.

RFL on Death Toll

NC260718 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] The rescue and rubble lifting operations have continued on the scenes of the two bombed buildings. At this time, 214 Marines have been martyred, while 58 French paratroopers have been martyred. These figures conform to the latest report issued by the civil defense.

French Victims Total 71

NC261230 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1205 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Excerpt] The civil defense directorate's operations room indicated a short while ago that the number of French martyrs as of 1350 today is 71.

Franjiyah To Attend Dialogue; Denounces Attacks

NC251158 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah has denounced the attacks on the positions of the U.S. and French forces operating in Lebanon within the framework of the Multinational Force. He said: I strongly denounce the criminal actions and the methods of violence. Franjiyah pointed out that the one who benefits from the two criminal incidents is the one who benefits from the continuity of the partition and settlement plot in Lebanon. He asked: Will any one other than Israel benefit from partition and settlement?

This was contained in the news conference Franjiyah held this morning in his palace in Zgharta. In his news conference he affirmed that he will attend the National Dialogue [Committee] meeting to be held in Geneva. He pointed out that the National Salvation Front will hold a meeting in Damascus in the next few days to agree on the points to be discussed at the general meeting.

Replying to a question on the required concessions Franjiyah said: There must be personal concessions; but to concede anything that is not in Lebanon's interest is in my view a form of treason to the nation.

Lebanese Forces Spokesman on Bombing Incidents

NC241855 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The Command Council of the Lebanese Forces held its weekly meeting this evening under the chairmanship of Mr Fadi Afram. The Command Council started the session with a minute of silence in memory of the innocent victims who were killed yesterday morning by a criminal attempt against the U.S. and French contingents operating within the Multinational Force.

At the end of the meeting, the official spokesman for the Lebanese Forces Command Council issued the following communique:

1. The usual feelings of blame, rejection, and solidarity were not enough in such a situation which calls for anger and for effective and courageous reaction.

2. It appears to the U.S. Administration and to the French Government that the aim of these two massacres is to obtain the withdrawal of the Multinational Force which embarrasses the authors of the bloodshed who aimed at isolating Lebanon, dismembering it, and spreading discord and destruction on its territory.

3. Presidents Reagan and Mitterrand have shown an awareness equal to their responsibilities regarding their leadership of the free world and the defense of its interests in this sensitive region of the world and in an allied and friendly country which is an effective and true member of the free world and the liberal democracies.

4. All the attempts aimed at accusing either Iranian or local parties which helped in perpetrating these massacres do not prevent anybody from realizing the truth regarding the Syrian role in planning, implementing, and distributing the roles to all those agents who are numerous on the local scene.

5. The Lebanese Forces, who have devoted themselves since their creation to the defense of Lebanon's freedom, dignity, and sovereignty and to liberty and democracy in the Lebanese pluralistic society, appeal to the international forces, targeted by this international crime and terrorism, to (?confront) quickly, firmly, and precisely those who bear the responsibility for blowing up Lebanon for more than 8 years, and to help the Lebanese state, its legal institutions and loyal Lebanese factions, to confront the discord and attempts to undermine the state.

These are attempts carried out by Syria and the countries of the steadfastness front, Iran, and the Soviet Union to turn Lebanon into an area of tension and trouble for the West instead of allowing it to play its leading role in serving the free world and promoting peaceful relations among the countries of the area.

Al-Jumayyil Confers With Parliamentarians

NC250930 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Telephone dispatch by Joe Sa'adah from Presidential Palace — live]

[Excerpts] President Amin al-Jumayyil this morning received the Chamber of Deputies Emergency Commission. During the meeting, which was attended by Prime Minister al-Wazzan, the conferees discussed the current situation. One of the deputies said President al-Jumayyil wished to consult the representatives of the parliamentary blocs on the question of the dialogue in Geneva. It was agreed to hold another meeting on Thursday, the day after tomorrow, between President al-Jumayyil and representatives of the parliamentary blocs. The representatives would be able to present memos should they have any specific proposals or ideas concerning the dialogue issue. Prime Minister al-Wazzan will attend the second meeting on Thursday.

Committees Express Condolences

NC251311 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] At 1415 today the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs and Defense Committees ended their joint session which began around 1130 under the chairmanship of Speaker al-As'ad, and which was attended by the foreign and defense ministers in addition to 33 deputies.

After the conferees discussed the dimensions of the attack on the U.S. Marines and the French paratroopers, and heard a statement by Minister Salim about the possible steps which the United States and the countries of the Multinational Force might take, they issued the following recommendation:

The Foreign Affairs, Security and Defense Committees, which met in a joint session at noon on Tuesday, 25 October 1983, under the chairmanship of the Chamber of Deputies speaker and with the attendance of the foreign and defense ministers, after taking cognizance of the double attack on the U.S. Marines and the French paratroopers operating within the framework of the Multinational Force in Lebanon — the attack which resulted in the martyrdom of many of their members — and after discussing the current affairs and the successive developments have unanimously decided:

1. To denounce the criminal act which was aimed at the U.S. and French Forces operating in Lebanon, and to consider it as being directed against freedom, democracy, and human dignity in the world and against the existence of the homeland and the state in Lebanon.

2. To address sincerest expressions of condolences to the U.S. and French peoples through Presidents Reagan and Mitterrand, their governments, U.S. Congress, and the French National Assembly and Senate, coupled with sentiments of profound sharing in the pain that is commensurate with their sharing in helping Lebanon and their solidarity with it in its fateful ordeal.

3. To express appreciation of the U.S. and French stances to reject yielding to terror, and their decision to continue defending the principles of freedom at the side of the Lebanese people.

4. To affirm that the struggle in Lebanon is an external, regional, and international one as proved by the double attack and the successive series of events that have been taking place for over 8 years.

5. To call on the Lebanese Government to tackle the crisis on the basis of its external causes and not to accept the premise that it is caused by an internal dispute, as well as to draw attention to the seriousness of confining tackling the crisis to a dialogue of local parties, because this means that the responsibility will be confined to them and provide cover for the real culprits that are colluding abroad.

Al-Jumayyil Meets With Higher Liaison Body

NC251304 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Telephone dispatch by Joe Sa'adah from Presidential Palace — live]

[Text] At noon today, His Excellency President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil presided over the meeting of the Political Committee of the Higher Liaison Body, which is composed of the ambassadors and charges d'affaires of the states participating in the Multinational Force, the commanders of these forces, and the Lebanese officers team. Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan attended the meeting.

At the outset of the meeting, his excellency asked the conferees to observe a 1-minute silence in honor of the martyrs who fell victim to the two criminal attacks against the U.S. and French Forces in Beirut on Sunday morning. His excellency reiterated his deep sorrow and asked the U.S. and French representatives to convey condolences, in his name and in the name of the Lebanese Government and people, to the U.S. and French presidents, governments, and people, on the victims who fell on the arena of honor in the defense of peace in Lebanon and the region.

His excellency said: The grotesque crime which was committed against the Multinational Force will intensify our abidance by the principles and values for which we and these forces are struggling.

The director of the presidential operations room then presented a report on the security situation in the country, outlining the continued violation of the cease-fire against the Lebanese Army positions in [Beirut's] southern suburbs and on the mountain. The report also touched on the innocent victims in the north as a result of the aliens' fighting in Lebanon.

Dr Wadi' Haddad, presidential national security adviser, briefed the conferees on the ongoing preparations for the National Dialogue Conference in Geneva.

Al-Jumayyil Urges Unity

NC260002 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Yesterday [25 October], President Amin al-Jumayyil spoke frankly to the representatives of the various functions, including the present and past prime ministers, deputies, members of female and social organizations, and economic, labor, and press circles about the problems the government is tackling. President al-Jumayyil included representatives of all these functions to emphasize again the policy of consultations he adopted since the first day of assuming his constitutional powers.

President al-Jumayyil said during his meetings that the regime wished that the representation at the [National] Dialogue Conference was more comprehensive, particularly as the conferees are expected to issue important resolutions. He has therefore decided to hold meetings with the leadership, trade unions, and functionaries to hear their views, directions, and remarks so the regime may be able to represent them at Geneva, because he wants to embody the popular will with all its hopes and aspirations.

President al-Jumayyil added: Lebanon is at a difficult stage these days. The dangers, which are external, are getting nearer to us. We, as a regime, want the popular leadership's support and we want the people to be on our side so that we may surmount these dangers and achieve the cherished salvation.

The president further said he has no doubt at all that the Lebanese people will triumph, God willing, over all that is being planned against them, because right is on the side of this people, who are determined to defend their rights. The people who defend their rights never die.

President al-Jumayyil explained that the conspiracy we are confronting today does not involve the person of the president or the government, but rather is a conspiracy against the presidency, regime, and system. This conspiracy has gone beyond the concept of opposition to a certain president or government to the goal of overthrowing the presidency, regime, and system.

President al-Jumayyil emphasized that all must realize now that there is no difference among the Lebanese on any of the issues raised, and the possibility of an agreement between us is easy and available. Unfortunately, the external plot has not yet exhausted its objectives and means and it imposes itself on our internal atmosphere. The occupation we confront is not only a geographical occupation but is an occupation of the national will as well. This is the essence of the problem from which we suffer; rather, this is its basis.

President al-Jumayyil hoped that the press will not preoccupy the citizens with slogans such as hegemony and will not forget the foreign presence dominating the soil of the homeland.

His excellency called for the mobilization of the popular ranks to confront the danger threatening Lebanon, because if the enemy manages to control Lebanon, it will show no mercy to anyone, whether Muslim or Christian. If the calamity occurs, all of us will pay a terrible price because we will no longer have a Druze mountains, Christian mountain, coast, or cities, God forbid.

Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, who participated with President al-Jumayyil in all the consultations, addressed the president saying:

You have been destined, Your Excellency, to go to Geneva to represent Lebanon at the [National] Dialogue Conference. You actually represent Lebanon. You wished that the national representation was broader and more comprehensive on the constitutional institutions. Things being what they are, all the Lebanese people must support you. Undoubtedly, your leaderships will issue the necessary statements in support of the regime's stand. The press is required to mobilize the efforts and mount an effective campaign to consolidate the main principles on which Lebanon was founded, which are the only thing that can preserve Lebanon.

You were quite correct, Your Excellen[illegible] when you spoke a[illegible] the free Lebanese will. Any agreement that is not the product of such a will will not last.

Beirut Reports on Security Committee Meeting

NC251505 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1420 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Telephone dispatch by unidentified correspondent from the NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY's editorial room — live]

[Text] A short time ago, the Security Arrangements Committee concluded its meeting at the Trad Bank branch between Kafr Shima and Ash-Shuwayfat. The meeting was attended by Staff Colonel Jean Nasif for the Army, Dr Jean Ghanim for the Lebanese Front, Wahbi Abu Fa'ur for the National Salvation Front, and Dr Ayyub Humayyid for the Amal Movement.

The information we have about the meeting indicates that the conferees discussed the consolidation of the cease-fire in light the developments of the past 2 days. They also followed up the security situation and dealt with some new developments. They reviewed the question of Dayr al-Qamar. Each party expressed its view on the executive measures that should be taken to resolve the problem of Dayr al-Qamar. It was decided to submit these views to the leaders concerned so they can follow up the discussions and achieve a solution that will be unanimously approved by all the parties.

The committee also discussed the subject of the neutral observers and agreed on the task to be carried out by them. The committee continued to discuss the method for inviting these observers, the period of their mandate, their relations with the civilians, and the guarantees that will be given to the states that are to participate in the observers force. It is known that Italy and Greece have thus far agreed to participate in this force.

The committee then followed up the rescue operations, the removal of the bodies, and the repair of the electricity and water networks. An Electricity Authority source said that if the situation remains as it is, it is hoped that rationing will end by the end of October.

AFP: Geneva Conference To Be Held As Scheduled

NC251629 Paris AFP in English 1624 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] ~~Riyadh,~~ Oct 25 (AFP) — The Lebanese national reconciliation congress will meet as planned in Geneva on October 31 despite the Sunday bombing of the French and U.S. military headquarters in Beirut, Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri said here today.

"All the parties who must participate in the congress told (me) of the importance they accord its taking place," he told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

Mr al-Hariri arrived here from Damascus, where he met with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and with Walid Junblatt, head of Lebanon's Progressive Socialist Party (PSP).

The Saudi mediator said he was optimistic about the outcome of the congress because of consultations with different parties in the Lebanese conflict following the attack on the U.S. and French military headquarters.

Mr al-Hariri left here today for Beirut after briefing Saudi officials about his meetings in the Syrian capital.

(In Damascus, ~~a spokes~~man for the PSP said the opposition National Salvation Front, of which Mr Junblatt is a leader, would hold a summit meeting before the end of the week, probably in Damascus.)

Junblatt Warns Against Cease-Fire Violations

NC260858 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] In the security sphere, we note that great tension now reigns supreme on the axes of the mountain and of the southern suburbs following an explosive night that witnessed violent clashes, the last of which took place on the Khaldah-'Araman-Radio Orient axis. At 0600 today, violent clashes raged on this axis, and it was reported that artillery shells landed in the adjacent areas. Similar clashes were noted last night on the College of Science-Al-Laylakah-Hayy as-Sullum axis. With regard to the axes of Suq al-Gharb, 'Aytat, and Kayfun, the sound of sporadic explosions continued to be heard, while bursts of gunfire were noted in Ash-Shiyah.

Furthermore, an official of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] has announced that PSP leader Walid Junblatt has warned against the continuing cease-fire violations. Mr Junblatt said: This state of affairs might compel us to reconsider all the agreements that have been concluded.

Birri Warns of Possible U.S. Operation in Lebanon

JN252025 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Beirut —Amal Movement leader lawyer Nabih Birri has warned against launching an aggression against the southern suburbs of Beirut in light of the agent Phalange Party's instigations.

In a statement he made today, lawyer Birri denounced the Phalangist radio's instigations to provoke the Multinational Force to storm the southern suburbs under the pretext that these suburbs are volatile hotbeds. He further said that any harm done to the southern suburbs would be considered harm done to all Lebanon, and that the Multinational Force should reconsider its calculations because the side that would benefit from this tension is the side trying to obliterate what is taking place in southern Lebanon. Lawyer Birri asked the Amal Movement's representative in the Security Arrangements Committee to call for an action against the Phalangists' instigations campaign. It is known that the U.S. National Security Council has decided to deploy a U.S. Marine force in several areas of Beirut. Observers consider this action as a new direct occupation of the nationalist areas of Beirut and its southern suburbs by the U.S. forces. This occupation will aim at liquidating the Lebanese Nationalist Forces, which are located in the city. This will increase the direct U.S. military involvement in Lebanon. Observers also note that this decision completes and agrees with the decree issued by the head of the ruling regime in Beirut, Amin al-Jumayyil, on the reorganization of strikes in Lebanon.

Multinational Force Ministers To Meet in Paris

NC251050 Paris AFP in English 1040 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Paris, Oct 25 (AFP) — The foreign ministers of the four countries with troops in the multinational peacekeeping force in Lebanon — Britain, France, Italy and the United States — will "most likely" meet here Thursday, the External Relations Ministry said here today. But the date and place of this meeting have so far not been definitely fixed, the source said. The White House proposed the meeting following the two giant bomb attacks on barracks housing the U.S. and French troops in Beirut on Sunday.

British Land Forces Commander Arrives in Beirut

NC251856 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Excerpt] The British commander of land forces Sir Frank Kitson arrived in Beirut today to review security for the British contingent of the Multinational Force. His helicopter was diverted at the last moment to one of the American ships offshore. Very suspicious looking lorries have been seen going along the airport perimeter resembling those used in Sunday's outrage. The Marines were (?placed) on maximum alert and dug holes and bunkers.

Army Arrests 2 Fatah Officers in Beirut Suburb

NC251944 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Excerpt] At 1915 tonight, the Army's positions in the southern suburbs, particularly in the area of Saint George in Al-Hadath and up to the Kafr Shima bridge, the Faculty of Sciences, and the edges of Hayy as-Sullum came under concentrated rocket attacks and heavy machinegun fire from the leftist positions in Ash-Shuwayfat. The attacks eased at 2000.

In the meantime, the Lebanese Army repulsed a wide-scale attempt to infiltrate its positions on this axis. Two Palestinians were arrested during the attempt. One is a major and the other a lieutenant in the Fatah movement. The major is called Ahmad 'Abbas Hamiyyah. A counterfeit Lebanese identity card issued in the name of Muhammad Mahmud Yasin was found in his possession.

RFL: Marines, Leftists Clash in Beirut Area

NC251817 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1755 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] To start with a report that just arrived about half an hour ago, clashes were reported around the Faculty of Science between the U.S. Marines on one side and socialists and communists on the other. There has also been intermittent shelling on Lebanese Army positions at Hadath and Dahr al-Wahsh.

Marine Positions Fired On

NC260913 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] According to a statement by Major Robert Jordan, the Marines positions came under light arms fire for 2 hours. Jordan added that the firing stopped at 0700 after the U.S. forces returned the fire by using 21-mm guns against the sources of fire.

Explosion Near Tyre Against Israeli Patrol

NC251948 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] An explosion occurred in the Shabriha area near Tyre at 1645 this evening. It later transpired, as our correspondent in the south has just reported, that it was directed against an Israeli patrol. Subsequently, bursts of gunfire and explosions were heard.

Legislative Decree on Political Parties Issued

NC241250 Beirut As-Safir in Arabic 21 Oct 83 p 3

[Text] Legislative Decree No 153, which defines the work of political parties, nonpolitical societies, foreign societies, and the societies federation has been issued. The following is the text:

First Section: General Principles

Article 1: A society is a legal body established by at least three persons who always carry out their activities and offer their information or material means for a purpose that is not aimed at gaining or sharing profit.

Article 2: The establishment of a society is one of the constitutional rights of a Lebanese. The validity of the establishment of a society is subject to the provisions of this legal decree and of general laws.

Article 3: The establishment of a society requires submission of its basic law, signed by the founders. This includes its name, headquarters, goals, and sources of income and specifies the committee that runs and represents the society as well as its internal organizations and methods of choosing its members and committees, procedures for membership, and rules of amending its basic law and of dissolving it and clearing its assets.

Article 4: Establishment of societies is banned in the following cases:

1. If they aim at or lead to contravention of the constitution or valid rules and laws or impede constitutional life and public freedoms.

2. If they contravene general ethics or public discipline such as aiming at or leading to a threat to national unity, disrupt security, or foment discrimination among the factions, sects, or religions.

3. If their activity contradicts their basic law.

4. If they are clandestine. They will be considered clandestine if they are established in contravention of the provisions of Article 1 of the penal code or of the provisions of this legislative decree.

5. If their establishment, activities, names of their departments, or the training, clothing, equipment, or insignia of their members has a military or semimilitary character, be it independent or associated with another society.

6. If some or the majority of their founder members or members of their administrative committee embrace principles aimed at or leading to the situations outlined in the aforementioned points 1 and 2 of this article.

Article 5: A society's goal is defined according to its law and in light of the reality of its activities.

Second Section: Nonpolitical Societies

Article 6: Nonpolitical societies are societies that have no political goals and do not resort to political means to achieve their goals.

Article 7: It is stipulated that a founder or member of a nonpolitical society must be at least 21 years of age, must enjoy civil rights, and must not have been convicted of a crime or disgraceful misdemeanor.

Article 8: Establishment of nonpolitical societies is subject to prior authorization from the interior minister. If the goal of the society is within the framework of other ministries, authorization can only be given after approval of the competent minister. The rules that must be followed in giving the authorization shall be defined in a decree issued in accordance with the interior minister's suggestions.

Article 9: The appropriate authorities shall ascertain that the formation of an association is not against the law, particularly in respect of the provision contained in Article 4 of this legislatice decree.

The license shall be given within a period not exceeding 3 months from the date of application. If this period elapses and the license is not given, the administration's silence shall be regarded as refusal.

Article 10: A summary including the license, the name of the association, its objective, and its address or its management center and branches shall be published in the *Official Gazette* at the expense of the founders within a maximum of 1 month from the date the license is received.

Article 11: Every amendment or change made to the association's constitution or bylaws on the basis of which it obtained the license, or any change in its administrative board, management center, or branches, work or other activities, must be brought to the attention of the appropriate authorities for the necessary approval.

Amendments or changes shall not be considered effective before the date of the approval or 2 months from the date of their announcement. The granting of approval shall be subject to the provisions outlined in this legislative decree.

Article 12: The establishment of each of the associations' branches shall be subject to the same conditions and rules to which the association itself is subject.

Article 13: The association shall enjoy the right of cashing membership payments and of owning immovable property, and its administration shall be entitled to accept grants, trusts, and donations provided that these are not attached to any conditions the implementation of which would breach the association's constitution or the laws and rules.

Article 14: The association shall restrict its activity to the work for which it has been founded. Nonpolitical associations shall be banned from dealing with politics.

Article 15: The Interior Ministry shall have the right to control the financial and administrative aspects of the associations. At the interior minister's proposal a decree shall stipulate the provisions of such control.

Article 16: The association shall be dissolved if it commits a grave breach of its constitution or laws, or if it breaches public order and security, or if it allocates its funds or part thereof for other than the objectives for which it was established. In such cases, the dissolution shall be by decree from the Cabinet at the interior minister's proposal.

The civil courts shall hear the disputes arising between the association and one of its members, and they shall determine a solution if necessary.

The administration shall hear the plea of the association regarding its intention to be dissolved before making any decision on its dissolution.

Article 17: In urgent circumstances it is permissible to issue a decree from the Cabinet at the interior minister's proposal temporarily suspending every association the activity of which contravenes security requirements, for a period not exceeding 1 year.

Article 18: Funds belonging to an association that has been forcibly or voluntarily dissolved shall be distributed according to its statutes or by a decision of the interior minister after the Cabinet's approval has been attained — a decision stipulating that the funds shall be distributed to associations with a similar aim. However, the associations that are dissolved for contravening Article 4 will have all their funds confiscated and distributed to associations with a general benefit — these will be defined by a decree that will be formulated at the interior minister's suggestion.

Article 19: Every association member has the right to withdraw from it at any time, but he has to pay the annual financial commitment defined by the association's statutes when it becomes due. Any text in the association's statutes that restricts the freedom of voluntary withdrawal contrary to the contents of this article shall be rejected.

Third Section: Foreign Associations

Article 20: An association is considered foreign:

A — Every association the main headquarters of which is outside Lebanon or which is a branch of a foreign association abroad.

B — Every association that actually belongs to an association found outside Lebanon.

C — Every association that is actually run by foreigners or having at least a quarter of the members of its board of directors foreign.

Article 21: No foreign association is permitted to be established or to start its work in Lebanon without the possession of a licence obtained by Cabinet decree at the suggestion of the interior minister.

Article 22: No foreign association that has been licenced according to the previous article is permitted to have any branch or establishment in Lebanon except by a license that is given by a decree issued by the Cabinet according to a suggestion by the interior minister. No foreign association has the right to amend its statutes or some of its clauses except when allowed to do so by a decree issued by the Cabinet at the suggestion of the interior minister.

Article 23: Any Lebanese association that turns into a foreign association shall halt its activities until a license is issued according to the provisions of this legislative decree.

Article 24: It is permitted that a license be granted provisionally and that it be subject to periodic renewal. A provisional license can be cancelled at any time.

Article 25: Foreign associations to which a licencs has been rejected or cancelled are warned against carrying out any activities and must liquidate their assets according to the provisions of Article 18 of this legislative decree.

Article 26: Foreign associations are permitted to own immovable property according to the rules and regulations in force.

Article 27: Interior Ministry representatives who hold a special warrant have the right to enter the headquarters of foreign associations, their branches, or the various establishments that belong to them. The foreign associations shall annually submit a detailed list of the names of their members to the public security general directorate.

Article 28: The Ministry has the right to request all foreign societies to submit all information that ensures they are under observation. The societies must meet the request within a period not exceeding a month from the day they receive the request, or else they will be sent a warning and must answer the warning within 15 days from the day they receive the warning. Should they fail to respond to the contents of the warning, they will be dissolved in accordance with a decree enacted by the Council of Ministers on the interior minister's proposal.

Article 29: The financial obligations of foreign societies shall be settled according to the provisions of Article 18 of this legislative decree.

Article 30: The provisions outlined in this legislative decree pertinent to the nonpolitical societies shall apply to foreign societies in all areas that do not contradict the provisions of this section.

Fourth Section: The Societies Federation

Article 31: The government has a right to organize the affairs pertinent to the societies federation in decrees adopted by the Council of Ministers according to the interior minister's proposals.

Fifth Section: Political Parties

Article 32: Every society with political goals is considered a political party.

Article 33: Political parties must not be established without an advance authorization given in a decree adopted by the Council of Ministers on the interior minister's proposal.

Article 34: It is stipulated that a founder of a political party must be at least 25 years of age, must enjoy civil rights, and must not have been convicted of a crime or a misdemeanor. Members of a political party must be at least 21 years of age.

Article 35: Persons convicted of crimes of public security or state security are not allowed to establish political parties or to join them.

Article 36: Judges; members of the Army, the Internal Security Forces, the public security forces; civil servants, employees, workers, and contract workers of the public sector departments or the munipalities; and civil servants, employees, workers, and contract workers of the Army, the Internal Security Forces and the public security forces are banned from joining political parties.

Article 37: Pupils and students are not allowed to carry out any political activity in the educational establishments.

Article 38: Non-Lebanese are not allowed to establish or to join political parties in Lebanon.

Article 39: It is prohibited to establish a political party with a name that symbolizes a race or religion. It is prohibited to confine emmbership in a party to a race, to a sect, or to the people of a specific district that symbolizes a race or religion.

Article 40: It is prohibited to establish a political party proved to have links with a non-Lebanese party.

A decree shall be issued at the interior minister's proposal by the Council of Ministers outlining the cases exempt from the ban stipulated in the previous paragraph.

Article 41: The political party shall deposit its funds in a bank in the party's name.

Article 42: All provisions contained in this legislative decree concerning the nonpolitical societies that do not contradict the provisions of this section shall apply to the political parties, particularly the provisions of Articles 16 and 17 of this legislative decree.

Sixth Section: Penalties

Article 43: Founders of societies and their administrative boards shall be sentenced to 3 months to 2 years imprisonment and a fine of 1,000 to 10,000 Lebanese pounds, or to one of the two penalties in the cases outlined in Article 4 of this legislative decree. However, the penalties stipulated in the penal code shall apply to the secret societies.

Article 44: While taking into consideration the provisions of the draft law put into force by Decree No 10,830, dated 9 October 1962, a penalty of 6 months to 2 years imprisonment and a fine of 1,000 to 10,000 Lebanese pounds shall be imposed against anyone trying to maintain a society that was ordered dissolved; anyone trying to assist it in continuing its function or in holding its meetings; or anyone turning his property into a center for its members.

The courts shall apply this in addition to the provisions of the penal code.

Article 45: The penalties stipulated in the penal code and other laws in force shall apply against any criminal action for which no special penalty is provided under this legislative decree.

Article 46: Persons violating the provisions of this legislative decree that are not clearly stipulated in this legislative decree or in another legal provision shall be sentenced to 1 to 6 months imprisonment and a fine of 1,000 to 5,000 Lebanese pounds or to one of these two penalties.

Seventh Section: General Provisions

Article 47: This legislative decree shall not apply to the organizations, groupings, trade unions, chambers of commerce and industry, and the associations provided for under special laws except within the limits of the provisions of this decree that do not contradict these laws.

Article 48: The nonpolitical societies existing on the date this legislative decree comes into force shall be given a period of 6 months, and the political parties a period of 3 months, to settle their status in accordance with the provisions of this decree, otherwise they shall be considered as having been dissolved. The dissolution shall be declared in a decree adopted by the Cabinet at the interior minister's proposal.

Article 49: All organizations and political parties provided for under this legislative decree shall be subject to the Interior Ministry's permanent control. They shall have their account books endorsed by the notary public. The Interior Ministry shall inspect these books at any time. The ministry shall directly or through the Finance Ministry inspect the bank accounts of the political parties after obtaining a decree from the Cabinet at the interior minister's proposal.

At the proposal of the interior and finance ministers, a decree shall be issued by the Cabinet outlining details of the control to be applied by the Interior and Finance Ministries.

Article 50: The societies carrying out activities that can cause harm to others shall contract insurance against such incidents.

The cases that must be insured shall be outlined in a decree by the Cabinet at the interior minister's proposal.

Article 51: The societies dissolved by a decision of their own departments or because the goals for which they were formed have been met — and generally every society dissolved prior to the date this legislative decree comes into force — shall be entitled to apply for relicensing within 6 months of the date this legislative decree comes into force, provided their dissolution was not the result of a penalty. Licenses shall be given in accordance with this legislative decree's provisions.

Article 52: The societies dissolved prior to this legislative decree by judicial or administrative orders, and whose dissolution is the result of a penalty, shall be entitled to apply for relicensing 10 years after the dissolution order. Every administrative action or information provided to them before the lapse of this period shall be considered null and void.

The societies referred to shall be given 1 month after the end of the above mentioned 10 years to apply for relicensing.

The licensing shall be by decree from the Cabinet at the interior minister's proposal.

Article 53: The law on obligations and contracts shall apply to the societies' activities in all that does not contradict the provisions of this legislative decree.

Article 54 All provisions contrary to the provisions of this legislative decree or incompatible with its contents shall be abolished, and the details for the application of this legislative decree shall be outlined in Cabinet decrees.

Article 55 This legislative decree shall be in force as of the date of its publication in the *Official Gazette*.

Major Haddad Comments on Current Issues

JN241052 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Leader of Free Lebanon Major Sa'd Haddad has made the following statement: A unit of free Lebanon forces arrested in and around Sidon a gang responsible for stealing cars and carrying out armed robberies against various shops. The gang's members are currently undergoing investigation. Those arrested are: George Tannuri from Ba'labbak, Bassam Sayyar from Rashayya al-Fakhkhar and resident of Maghdushah, and Rimon al-Haddad from the Al-Qurayyah township. After the interrogation it was found that Sergeant Major Anwar al-Haddad of the free Lebanon army is covering up for this gang in return for some of the stolen items which were given to him by the gang's members. In compliance with the honorable principles which the free Lebanon army command follows and applies, such as preserving the army's good reputation, and in light of the fact that this army was established to serve and protect the citizens and not to blackmail them, the following has been decided:

1. The company commander of the southern Lebanon gendarmerie is ordered to take the members of this gang into custody and have them appear before the court for the necessary procedures.

2. Sergeant Major Anwar al-Haddad shall be expelled from the free Lebanon army and shall settle all his debts to the army's fund.

3. Sergeant Major Anwar al-Haddad shall be handed over to the company commander of the southern Lebanon gendarmerie to face legal action.

4. Major Haddad asks every citizen who has received or bought a single item from members of the gang to deliver these items to the gendarmerie command in Sidon so that they can be returned to their owners. It should be noted that whoever buys stolen items will be considered by law like the robber himself.

Major Haddad commented on the current issues as follows: First, in the name of some of the displaced persons from Ash-Shuf and in my name, I thank Rafiq al-Hariri for offering some residential units in the Sidon area for the lodging of these persons, and ask him to expedite the completion of the other units in order to enable us to evacuate the displaced persons from the schools, so as to allow the sons of southern Lebanon to return to these schools and pursue their education for the sake of achieving a better future. We are fully confident that Al-Hariri, the man of charity, will not refuse our request. At the same time, we call on him to save the time which he is spending on mediation for the dialogue committee and the like, because no positive results will be achieved from this mediation for Lebanon and the Lebanese. Nothing was left in the hands of the Lebanese on which to initiate a dialogue. Therefore, we call on Al-Hariri to return to southern Lebanon to enable us to cooperate with him and unify our activities for the betterment of the situation in southern Lebanon, because nothing remains of the model Lebanon except in southern Lebanon.

Second, I advise Husni Mubarak, president of the African pharaoh republic of Egypt, that if he is working to return to the Arab fold we will not object because this is his own business, but we greatly denounce this return if its is meant to be at the expense of Lebanon and its destruction. Therefore, we ask his excellency to stop calling, on the international level, for Israel's unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon, disregarding the fact that the party which destoyred Lebanon is not Israel but Syria. On our part, we will ask Israel to withdraw from Lebanon after the last Syrian soldier of occupation evacuate from all the Lebanese territories, because Israel's entry into Lebanon took place at the request of the Lebanese majority against the Syrian occupiers and their agents. Requesting Israel alone to withdraw means giving Syria a legal right in Lebanon so as to become part of Greater Syria. Therefore, we ask Mubarak to halt bidding at Lebanon's expense and we thank him for his false sympathy toward us.

Third, I am pained these days by hearing much talk about the so-called dialogue committee and the strange results these committees will reach when they meet in Switzerland or in Mars, because the objective of such meetings is to anesthetize the poor tortured Lebanese citizen for a short period of time and to give him false hopes. It should be noted that all the parties which are supposed to meet for this dialogue do not possess anything to negotiate on, including the free decision. In light of these facts, the so-called National Salvation Front's team is trying to contain and ridicule the other team and its president. It has so far largely succeeded in this attempt. It might also go beyond this limit as long as the regime's team is mentally paralyzed and its vision is blurred. Therefore, I call on the tortured Lebanese people to uation, and to find a way to achieve their own salvation which we wish for them.

Fourth, I call again on those who pretend concern over Lebanon, outbid on it, and fish in muddy waters, whether they are men of religion or politics, to stop instigating the sons of southern Lebanon because they could influence some of the poor people here, who will pay a dear price for the sake of those charlatan instigators. Thus, I repeat: There is not the slightest danger threatening southern Lebanon and its sons. The big danger is the barbaric and dreadful Syrian occupation which aims at devouring all Lebanon after drowning as many of Lebanon's sons as possible. As for southern Lebanon, I reassure everyone that southern Lebanon will be the real stemming point for the Lebanon of the future, the humane, the democratic, wonderful, equal, free, sovereign, and independent Lebanon. Southern Lebanon is the only means of salvation for Lebanon and all the Lebanese. I appeal to the sons of southern Lebanon to pay no attention to those voices of instigation which might reach them and to stick together for reassurance and to pursue the constructive course which we are all following, so that southern Lebanon will not only be a model to be followed in Lebanon alone but also in the whole world. Let us, therefore, trust God and indulge ourselves in constructive work for the sake of achieving a better future for ourselves, our families, our people, and our homeland as a whole. We pray to God to keep us away from the wrong course and from instigators and to strengthen our march on the right path so that all matters will correct themselves. Long life to you and to free Lebanon which we pray will remain dominant and independent.

[Signed] Major Haddad, leader of free Lebanon

Commentary on U.S. Accusations, Plans Against Syria

JN251548 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Washington, which did not refrain at all from launching threats and warnings against Syria and the Arab nation, does not need pretexts and justifications to step up its hostile and spiteful tone. Its intentions are there, and the moves to implement them have actually existed for some time. President Reagan, and before him, his Secretary of State George Shultz and his predecessor Alexander Haig, described Syria as an insurmountable obstacle in the way of U.S. objectives and aspirations.

Syria, which is committed to its pan-Arab ideology and to its firm principles, does not deny that it is proudly confronting U.S. ambitions to dominate the Arabs, and the Zionist objectives derived from U.S. support for Israel. Syria also knows the price of such a confrontation, but at the same time, it is confident that its solid wall is protecting the Arab nation from the joint Zionist-U.S. danger. Therefore, U.S. Administration officials did not deny that they have ambitions in the Arab homeland and want to make their trusteeship over this homeland a comprehensive and immortal one. Hence, President Reagan's first reaction to the explosion that took place in the headquarters of the U.S. and French commands in Beirut affirmed that the United States has vital interests in Lebanon and in the entire Middle East.

Because he is convinced that Syria is behind the frustrations that caused damage to U.S. policy in the Middle East, beginning with the freezing of Camp David and ending with the destruction of the Zionist invasion of Lebanon, President Reagan ordered his naval bases in North Carolina to move to the east Mediterranean, hoping that Syria would yield to this terrorism and using U.S. failure as a pretext for stepping up the campaign of blackmail, threat, and defamation. Because he is also convinced that Israel has not realized the results of its invasion of Lebanon or the results that the United States wanted to realize from that invasion, President Reagan has accelerated his old, planned option to aggravte the situation in the Middle East by using his naval and air concentrations as well as Israel, which is ready to launch an aggression and which wants a larger U.S. involvement in the Middle East arena.

This intention, whose results are not guaranteed, is confirmed by Reagan's Secretary of State George Shultz who holds Syria responsible for the death of the Americans in Beirut, regardless of the side that carried out the two explosions or that is responsible for these explosions. Therefore, the intentions are there, the aggression is there, and the pretexts are also there for holding Syria responsible for the Reagan administration's failure which adopts aggression, especially when that aggression is aimed at the Arab nation and its options to liberate its usurped land and confirm its cultural existence among the other nations and peoples.

We in Syria expect from the U.S. Administration many hostile positions, but at the same time, we have confidence in our rights and will and we are also confident that the imperialist crimes are unlimited. Whether the United States retreats from that position or does not, our march is a principled and firm one and our objectives are based on rights approved by the international administration and supported by all forces of freedom, progress, and peace in the world at large.

Shultz Holds Syria Responsible for Explosions

JN251832 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] As part of intensifying U.S. hostility against Arab Syria, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has reiterated his reference to Syria when he predicted the identity of a side which he feels is responsible for the two attacks that took place in Beirut. He said that Syria must bear the responsibility for any terrorist actions, whether it is aware of them or not, as he put it. Shultz also put Syria among those whom he described as the enemies of peace in Lebanon, ignoring Syria's strenuous efforts to maintain security and peace in Lebanon and its recent efforts to reach a cease-fire to pave the way for a national dialogue.

Shultz also announced that he would hold urgent and intensive consultations with the foreign ministers of the states that are participating in the Multinational Forces at the end of this week, and that a high-level U.S. delegation will leave for Israel next week to discuss what he describe as unstable security issues in the Middle East. He also confirmed his country's ambitions in the region when he described the region as one which constitutes vital strategic and economic importance for the West.

Regarding the U.S. forces in Beirut, Shultz stressed President Reagan's insistence on keeping these forces there, and considered the idea of forcing Washington to leave Lebanon as a defeat that would make Washington pay a strategic, political, and moral price. Shultz' statements came in a closed meeting of the U.S. Congress. Part of these statements were published by the U.S. State Department and broadcast by the Voice of America.

U.S. Division Over Marine Issue Reported

JN251432 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] News agencies report an atmosphere of frustration being experienced by the Americans following the explosion incident. They added that the White House and the Congress are living the long days of Vietnam and that the families of the Marines are pinned before television screens waiting to see the face of a son, brother, or husband who might have escaped death in the Beirut explosion or hear the U.S. Defense Department's announcement on the names of the killed or wounded Marines.

Reports added that U.S. television networks replay the pictures of the wounded or the killed at the spectators' request.

On the political level, discussions began to revolve on the feasibility of the Marines' presence in Lebanon. The Democratic and Republican representatives were divided about the issue of whether the Marines should stay or withdraw from Lebanon. Democratic Senator Thomas Eagleton advised President Reagan to organize a withdrawal of the U.S. forces from Lebanon, indicating that some congressmen will, after some time, cut off finances to the Marines in order to force the U.S. Administration withdraw them. Senator Edward Kennedy called on the Congress not to allow President Reagan to keep U.S. forces in the dangerous position for an unlimited period of time in Lebanon. Former National Security Adviser Brzezinski warned against keeping the U.S. force in Beirut and said: If we stay there, we will be further implicated, more victims will fall, and our influence will be weakened.

While Thomas O'Neill, speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, has said that the Marines should not be withdrawn as this would be considered a Syrian victory, he also stated that any change in the role of the Marines should take place later. Senate Leader Howard Baker expressed resentment and said he will keep his mouth shut for the time being.

ATH-THAWRAH: U.S. Policy Responsible for Blasts

JN260935 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0930 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 26 Oct (SANA) — In a commentary today, the newspaper *Ath-Thawrah* stresses that the U.S. Administration's erroneous policy is responsible for the explosion which destroyed the U.S. headquarters in Beirut. The paper adds: The U.S. Administration, which has forced Syria's name into this incident not only plans to increase its hostility toward Syria, but is also attempting to develop this hostility to the level of a military adventure and folly which will either be direct or carried out by Israel. The paper says: In case fighting is imposed on Syria, it will bravely and strongly fight and defend itself and its principles by all the means in its possession. Moreover, Syria will not yield to threats of aggression and blackmail.

Ath-Thawrah continues: Syria is strong, its core is very solid and its weaponry is injurious. Syria is also not alone, because it is supported by the Arab nation and the forces of progress and liberation in th world, foremost being the friendly USSR. The paper expresses the hope that the U.S. Administration will deal with the situation with a spirit of responsibility in accordance with the United States role as a superpower and will relinquish its erroneous policy which would drag the region and the world into a catastrophe.

Ath-Thawrah concludes: The method of military adventure and frivolity will not enable the U.S. Administration to find a way out of its crisis and will not change the facts of the conflict in the region. On the contrary, it will increase the U.S. involvement in Lebanon and the Middle East, escalate the situation, bring more victims, and cause more pain for the peoples of the region and the United States.

Damascus Palestine Broadcast on Beirut Explosions

JN252240 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Palestine Broadcast — "Abu Salim's Talk"]

[Text] The irrational U.S. analysis and interpretation of the explosions that took place in the posts of U.S. and French forces in Lebanon, and the diversity and contradiction of the U.S. statements regarding the number of casualties and the levelling of accusations aim at something that should be known by everyone, although the U.S. Administration is ignoring it or, due to its nervousness, stupidity, and arrogance, it is unready to admit and accept it.

By doing this, the U.S. Administration aims at informing the U.S. people of this incident gradually to avoid their reaction to this incident, particularly since this administration has deluded the U.S. people into believing that the Middle East region is open for them, that this region is vital for their interests, that the region is quite open, and that the Arabs themselves and the peoples of the region agree on this.

By levelling its irrational accusations, this administration aims at continuing to deceive and mislead the U.S. and French people under the pretext that it is surprised at this incident and does not know why these explosions took place. This administration even claims that it has no enemies in the region and that the region welcomes it not as a protector but as a master. This administration even deluded its people into believing this argument, particularly since it has made a show of its power in the region and has given its people the impression that the entire region would fear and, consequently, yield to it the minute it made a show of naval force and after it had fired several of the huge shells this administration brought to the region.

The thing that should be made known to these peoples is that the authors of these designs and stands have become criminals in the eyes of the Arab and other peoples in the region. They have become enemies of humanity and its values. They constitute a threat to the world's security and peace. The authors of these designs have become enemies of all peoples, goodness, freedom, security, and peace. These authors have no more friends in the world. Their only friends are those who desire to seize the peoples' prosperity, those who antagonize the world's freedom, security, and peace, as well as the midget plotting agents, who do not represent the people.

Something else that should be made known to all the peoples, particularly in our region, is that people cannot accept the dictum that the Americans or the West Europeans can be good mediators or do any good for the people in this region. The people cannot accept the dictum that there are dangers other than the ones coming from the Americans and West Europeans. The people realize that these dangers are a result of the Americans and West Europeans' designs and desires, which threaten not only the peoples in our region but the world peoples as well. The people cannot accept any person's excuse even if this person identifies himself as a friend of the Americans and the West Europeans. Any such friend is condemned as much as the Americans and the West Europeans are condened.

The U.S. Administration, its allies, friends, and those who facilitate its missions in the region are all responsible for the explosions regardless of their perpetrators. All these together have caused this incident to happen. Their peoples should take them to account. These peoples should move in order to protect themselves from the dangers created by [their rulers'] desires and designs.

U.S. Military Reinforcement in Lebanon Reported

JN251942 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] U.S. military reinforcements are continuing inside the Lebanese territories and off the Lebanese shores. A U.S. Marine spokesman stated in Beirut today that 300 Marines have arrived in Beirut from the United States via Western Europe. New U.S. forces are expected to arrive at later times.

ATH-THAWRAH Scores Recent U.S. Aid to Israel

JN220940 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 22 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Text] In its comment today *Ath-Thawrah* says under the headline "Of What Kind of Peace Is the United States Speaking?":

It seems that a new phase of strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel was inaugurated in Washington yesterday. Reports from Washinton say that the Reagan administration has decided to supply Tel Aviv with a sophisticated laser equipment which includes a large telescope to watch artificial satellites in space. This new qualitiative development in the U.S.-Israeli relations will definitely increase the tension in the Middle East and will encourage the Zionist enemy to mount new military adventures within the steps to establish greater Israel. In fact this is the covert aim of any new U.S. weapon given to Israel.

The United States promised Israel Pershing and Cruise missiles under the pretext of preserving the balance of power in the region. Today, the United States is completing its moves within a comprehensive U.S. scheme aimed to impose Zionist control over the entire Arab region and to dismember the Arab nation to pave the way for the greater Israel project which is now an integral part of the U.S. Middle East policy.

What provokes surprise in this U.S. stand is its self-contradiction. While raising a strange hue and cry over its concern for peace, the United States is supplying Israel with the most sophisticated technology and the most modern arms in the U.S. arsenal. Of what kind of peace is Washington speaking and who is it fooling when it tries to peddle its aggressive ideas and theories in the region?

The Reagan administration created a great clamor in the world when Syrian began strengthening its defense capabilities to face aggression. The United States began making threats against Syria just because it had decided to remain steadfast in facing the imperialist-Zionist plot. At the same time, Washington forgot the advanced weapons it is offering to Israel and its large-scale military and economic support for the Zionist enemy's permanent aggression agianst all of the Arabs.

Can the United States speak of its concern for peace or its desire to realize peace in the Middle East? Can any Arab now tolerate the U.S. threat and attempt to create imaginary and false threats instead? These facts are supposed to force the entire Arab nation to move swiftly in order to answer this new U.S. aggression. The Arabs must pool their efforts to realize the strategic balance by supporting Syria on all levels. In order to make the Arab nation strong and safe, Syria must be strong and safe.

Damascus Reports U.S. Invasion of Grenada

JN251845 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] At dawn today, the State of Grenada was subjected to a brutal invasion by the United States with the aim of stopping the revolutionary process in the State of Grenada and restoring imperialist hegemony over its territories. U.S. President Ronald Reagan today admitted that the U.S. forces and the forces of six Caribbean states carried out the invasion at dawn today.

In his statement at the White House following the broadcast that the U.S. paratroopers invaded the island, President Reagan added that the aim of the landing operation in Grenada was to protect the lives of innocent people and to restore law, as he put it. He also clarified that the paratroopers will remain in Grenada until order was restored. He added that the landing operation was completed and that the two main airports in Grenada fell to the attackers' hands.

Grenada, which has more than 100,000 inhabitants, is located in the Caribbean Sea. A military coup recently took place there, and the former prime minister and a number of his government members were killed.

Greek Pasok Delegation Arrives in Damascus 23 Oct

JN232200 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] The Panhellenic Socialist Movement, PASOK, delegation headed by (Dhaskalakis Pourgos), member of the party's Political Bureau, arrived in Damascus this evening on a several day visit to the country. The delegation will hold talks with some comrade party and government officials aimed at developing and promoting relations between the two parties and friendly countries. The PASOK delegation was received at Damascus International Airport by Comrade Muhammad Haydar, member of the Ba'th Party National Command and head of the foreign relations desk; several comrades from the foreign relations desk in the National Command; the Syrian ambassador to Athens; and the Greek ambassador in Damascus and the embassy staff.

In a statement to SANA, (Yeoryios) [as heard] affirmed the deep relations between the Ba'th Party and the PASOK. He noted that his visit to the country will contribute toward entrenching and bolstering these relations to serve the interests of the friendly parties and countries and the interests of the Mediterranean basin peoples in general.

Khaddam Receives Delegation

JN251352 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received in Damascus today a delegation of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement [PASOK]. The assistant under secretary of foreign affairs, the director of the European Desk at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Greek ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. The talks dealt with the current political situation in the Middle East.

Al-Ahmar Receives Delegation

JN251943 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Comrade 'Abdullah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party this evening received the delegation of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement [PASOK] led by Comrade (Dhaskalakis Pourgos), member of the party's executive secretariat. The delegation is visiting the country at the invitation of the Ba'th Party National Command.

Comrade al-Ahmar spoke about the developing relations between the Ba'th Party and PASOK, pointing out the importance of this visit and the identity of the viewpoints of both parties on various issues concerning their common struggle.

Comrade al-Ahmar reviewed the current political events in the Arab region, especially what is taking place in Lebanon where plots are being carried out by U.S. imperialism and world Zionism and their tool in the region — Israel. He referred to the parties which cooperated with the imperialist forces and, in fact, requested an effective U.S. role through a military presence, by which the United States and its allies wanted to subjugate the region and to turn it into a protectorate to tamper with. He also referred to NATO's cooperation with the United States.

Comrade al-Ahmar praised the positive role played by Greece in confronting U.S. hegemony, backing the Arab people's struggle, and helping the peoples of the region to determine their own destinies without intervention or hegemony.

For his part, Mr (Dhaskalakis Pourgos), head of the guest delegation, affirmed that his party and government continue to maintain their Middle East stand in backing the Arab people's struggle for the liberation of the occupied Arab territories and the guaranteeing of the Palestinian Arab people's inalienable national rights. He said that his party and government condemn the Zionist aggression against the Arab nation and the expansionist policy pursued by Israel in the region. They also support Syria's stand in defending itself and the freedom and independence of Lebanon.

Greece has already expressed its viewpoint on the Camp David accords and the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, saying that they will not achieve peace, but lead the region to a new risky situation.

Finally, the head of the delegation requested Comrade al-Ahmar to convey the greetings of Greek President Papandreou and the PASOK leadership to Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party and president of the republic.

Damascus Radio Reports WFTU Appeal for Disarmament

JN230758 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] WFTU Executive Bureau will today hold a session to express the soldiarity of world workers and their trade union movement with Syrian workers and Syria's heroic steadfastness under the leadership of comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad against the imperialist and Zionist schemes.

The Bureau yesterday adopted a resolution calling for unified struggle against the multinational companies and stressing the need to improve the methods of cooperation and coordination among trade unions in their struggle against the multinational companies' discriminative policy, the capitalist economic integration, and the arms race.

At the end of its resolution, the Bureau called for finding ways and methods of action capable of eliminating division in the trade union movement and ensuring a large-scale participation of all workers.

During their session last night, the conferees appealed to all world workers and trade unions to renew their struggle against the arms race and against the deployment of nuclear missiles in Europe for the sake of putting an end to mass destruction and annihilation. The conferees stressed in their appeal that struggle for peace and disarmament is closely linked with struggle for a better life. The conferees also indicated that the connection between the arms race and the hostile imperialist policies aims at disrupting democratic devlopment. The conferees cited as examples the hostile imperialist policies and the expansionist Zionist practices against the Arab territories, the disavowal of the Palestinian people's national legitimate rights, the blatant imperialist interference in Lebanon, and the escalation of the imperialist and Zionist onslaught against Syria.

The Bureau expressed its conviction that workers and peoples can, through unified activities, put an end to the dangerous development of events and adopt practical measures to eliminate the danger of war, promote disarmament, and defend peace.

WFTU Ends Meeting 23 Oct, Statement Issued

JN240958 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus — The WFTU Executive Bureau today concluded its 30th session which lasted for 4 days with a session of solidarity with the Syrian workers and people, in the presence of Comrade 'Izz ad-Din Nasir, president of the General Federation of Trade Unions.

WFTU President Andor Gaspar delivered a speech during this session, in which he conveyed the greetings of the world workers to the steadfast Syrian workers and people which struggle for freedom and independence under comrade struggle President

Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party. He said that the aggressors are practicing all brutal means and using force and violence to impose hegemony over the region.

Comrade Shalayev, Chairman of the All-Union Council of Trade Unions in the USSR praised Syria's brave stand which rejects all the unilateral agreements and deals. He reviewed the serious situation in Lebanon in light of the U.S. use of the marines under cover of the so-called the Multinational Force.

At the end of his speech, he praised Syria's continued struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

The secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions expressed his country's solidarity with the Syrian workers and people in their confrontation of all forms of imperialist and Zionist conspiracies.

The secretary general of the French workers union denounced Israel's hostile policy and its occupation of the Golan Heights, Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip. He pointed ot the serious U.S. role in Lebanon and its participation, with a group of Lebanese reactionary forces in escalating the situation.

Ilyas al-Habr, president of the National Federation of Trade Unions in Lebanon, stressed the solidarity of the Lebanese workers and people with the Syrian people's struggle under President Hafiz al-Asad to foil all the hostile imperialist and Zionist designs. He also denounced the continued U.S. threats to Arab Syria. He said that the United States mobilizes the fleets and interferes militarily in Lebanon in order to turn it into a NATO base to launch aggression against Syria and the Arab peoples and their forces of liberation.

At the conclusion of his speech, and on behalf of the national federation of trade unions in Lebanon, he reiterated his solidarity with the struggle of the working class in Syria and wished it success in entrenching its achievements. He stressed the need to bolster world workers' solidarity with the people and workers of Syria, Palestine, and Lebanon.

Brother Humayyid Jallud, ICATU secretary general delivered a speech in which he praised Syria's national stands under president struggler Hafiz al-Asad's leadership. He stressed the support of the Arab working class and its trade unions for the principled and unswerving stand which Syria — people and government — adopts and for its rejection of all forms of conspiracies. He also praised Syria's attempts to foil all the U.S.-Zionist-reactionary agreement and alliances against the homeland's independence and freedom.

'Izz ad-Din Nasir, president of the Syrian General Federation of Trade Unions, then delivered a speech stressing that this militant phenonemon is a big support for Syria and entrenches its militant stand. He said: It is also an expression of rejection by the world working class of imperialist hegemony and the working class' readiness to confront the challenges of imperialism, racism, and Zionism. He stressed our people's determination to pursue the struggle under the leader of their march, depending on our Arab masses and on the friends in the world, and also depending on the progressive and honest forces and those who champion freedom. He said: We in Syria and our allies, the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese national and progressive forces, are in the same trench until victory is achieved and the occupied Arab territories are regained.

At the end of their 30th session, the conferees issued a statement expressing their grave anxiety over and denunciation of the escalation of U.S. and Zionist threats and pressures against Syria to undermine its steadfastness and its course which is hostile to imperialism.

The statement praised the determination of the Syrian working class and people, under the leadership of comrade struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, and Syria's firm stands in the face of the threats and schemes aimed at imposing hegemony and achieving expansion. The statement reiterated support for Syria's steadfastness and solidarity with it given that it is the base for confronting the schemes and plans of imperialism.

The statement condemned the Zionist-imperialist military intervention against Lebanon and its national forces, and called for the withdrawal of the Zionist forces from all the Lebanese territories. The statement also expressed appreciation for the constant support Syria has been providing to the Lebanese national forces and for the Syrian measures and preparations to confront the consequences of the policy of imperialism and Zionism and the reactionary regimes which are colluding with them.

Polish Party Delegation Arrives in Damascus

JN241804 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1455 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 24 Oct (SANA) — A Polish United Workers' Party delegation led by Comrade Palimaka, head of the Information Department [as received] of the party's Central Committee, arrived here today on a visit of several days at the invitation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command.

The visit falls within the framework of the joint cooperation agreement between the two parties.

Ba'th Party Central Committee Meetings Reported

JN221634 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] The Syrian Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Central Committee held its seventh session under Comrade leader President Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, between 17-19 October 1983. The Central Committee discussed the reports submitted to it by the Ba'th Party Regional Command and the Council of Ministers, and studied the reports from the Regional Command's specialized bureaus on their activities in various fields. The committee expressed its satisfaction with the coherent organizational situation in the party and the popular organizations, and the growing cohesion between the party and the people's masses.

The Central Committee also discussed reports from the Council of Ministers. During these discussion, the committee paid special attention to the issue of agriculture in the country and stressed the need to accelerate the mechanization of agriculture. It also stressed the need to accelerate the process of using the country's water energy in the fields of water and electricity, and the need for land reclamation and investment to carry out the plans approved by the seventh regional conference of the party and the Central Committee.

The Central Committee also expressed its satisfaction with the government's steps in this field, and stressed the need to intensify efforts to achieve more gains and to punish the negligent. The Central Committee also called for increasing production in all production and development institutions. It also reviewed the current political situation through which the Arab nation is passing, and the dangers that threaten it as a result of the direct U.S. aggression against our people in coordination with the Zionist enemy and the agents of imperialism in the Arab region.

The Central Committee also praised steadfast Syria's principled, firm position under our great party and its secretary general, President Hafiz al-Asad, against the most dangerous imperialist-Zionist onslaught that is aimed at the Arab nation's present and future. It also praised our country's pan-Arab, courageous position against the facist Israeli invasion that is politically, economically, and miliarily supported by U.S. imperialism and its agents in Lebanon.

The Central Committee also greeted our country's continued and firm support for our Arab people in Lebanon and their nationalist and progressive forces, and for the National Salvation Front that is bravely confronting the Israeli enemy and its agents in order to preserve Lebanon's Arabism and the unity of its people and land. It also greeted our brave Armed Forces' role in confronting the Zionist-imperialist aggression, and their great, continued sacrifices in defending Palestine and the Arab nation's dignity and fate.

The Central Committee also expressed its appreciation for the position and support of the Socialist countries bloc, foremost of which is the friendly Soviet Union. It also greeted the world's progressive and liberation forces that are supporting our just cause. It also affirmed Syria's continued, firm principles in confronting the increasing challenges from the U.S. and Zionist imperialism and their agents in the region, regardless of the size of the conspiracies and the sacrifices. We have confidence in the strength of our internal front and in our people rallying around the historical leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, the symbol of our nation's steadfastness and dignity, in order to realize our nation's great goals — namely, unity, liberation, and socialism.

Mashariqah Heads Party Training Bureau Meeting

JN251726 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus — The staff of the Regional Party Training Bureau this morning held a plenary session under Comrade Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, assistant secretary of the Ba'th Party Regional Command and head of the Regional Party Training Bureau. The session, which was held at the Regional Command offices, was attended by the comrade heads of party training bureaus at the various party branches and the comrade directors of party training schools.

Comrade Mashariqah emphasized at the outset of the session the importance of party training and political education in strengthening the party's organizational structure and creating a more cohesive and effective party organization which can carry out its tasks successfully. He said this was especially important in the present circumstances experienced by the Arab nation in general, and Syria in particular; circumstances which are marked by an intensified imperialist-Zionist onslaught to undermine the steadfastness of our country, the only bastion of steadfastness and confrontation and the defender of the Arab nation's honor and pride.

Comrade Mashariqah affirmed that our country will continue to confront all plots and plans to dominate the whole region, plunder its resources, and establish aggressive military bases that would threaten the independence and interests of the people of the region.

Palestine Broadcast Attacks King Husayn's Policies

JN222019 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Palestine Broadcast: from the "On the Events" program]

[Text] In one of its recent issues, the Jordanian newspaper *Ad-Dustur* says: King Husayn warns against harming the PLO's legitimacy and calls for safeguarding the Gulf's Arabism and Lebanon's unity. This is a strange expression, especially if we put it on the operating table.

Let us begin with the first word. Who is King Husayn? He has a very well-known record. No two Palestinians or Arabs disagree that he is an agent of imperialism. This Husayn, who carried out the September massacres in Jarash and the forests of Jarash, warns against harming the PLO's legitimacy under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat. In King Husayn's opinion, the PLO was illegitimate under Ash-Shuqayri or Yahya Hammudah, and it will be illegitimate under any Palestinian other than Yasir 'Arafat. Let us suppose that Yasir 'Arafat dies. Will the PLO's legitimacy end with his death. Are all of the Palestinian people nothing and is Yasir 'Arafat alone everything? We are not surprised by such an opinion, especially when that opinion is voiced by His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal ibn 'Abdallah. Is Yasir 'Arafat the Palestinian people's share or King Husayn's share?

The king calls for safeguarding the Gulf's Arabism. How? By staging a war against the Iranian islamic revolution that is hostile to imperialism, and by forming a Jordanian force affiliated to the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force in order to interfere in the Gulf. According to King Husayn, the Americanization of the Gulf means the Arabization of the Gulf. How can King Husayn think in a different way?

King Husayn also calls for Lebanon's unity. He does so by providing the Phalangist army with Jordan's Star Fighter planes to bomb the nationalists in Jabal Lubnan. The Phalangists are cooperating with Israel; and King Husayn also cooperates with Israel. Consequently, Lebanon's unity, according to King Husayn, is to enable Israel to spread hegemony over Lebanon. How can his love for Yasir 'Arafat, his service of the United States in the Gulf, and his support for the Phalangists meet in his policy? This will put a question mark on Yasir 'Arafat's true nature. Will Yasir 'Arafat say that the King's position is a new dilemma for him completing the massacres of September and in the forests of Jarash? Yasir 'Arafat did not answer King Husayn. He and the king are in the same position, but the Palestinian people have nothing to do with anyone who stands with the king. King Husayn's friends are the enemies of the Palestinian people, and King Husayn's enemies are the friends of the Palestinian people.

Palestine Broadcast on Jordanian Intervention Forces

JN252143 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Palestine Broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] Brother strugglers: The editorial of this week's *At-Tala'i'* magazine of the As-Sa'iqah organization and the PLO, is entitled "The Jordanian Rapid Deployment." The editorial says: As if the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces are not enough, or as if these forces are welcome, the United States has decided to give us more such forces — hence the Jordanian rapid deployment forces this time.

When a certain state establishes an army or special military forces, it does so to carry out its own strategy and to protect its special interests. Thus, the Jordanian rapid deployment forces which the United States is now trying to establish are forces for U.S. rapid deployment, even if they are Jordanian forces. It is clear, of course, that the aim of these forces is not to liberate Palestine from Israel or even protect Jordan from Israel. The Americans made this clear when they said that the Jordanian rapid deployment forces are for protecting the oil; in other words protecting U.S. interests.

Since it is agreed that the so-called U.S. interests and the protection of these interests was the reason for the establishment of Israel, and therefore the catastrophe that befell the Arab nation, this means that the Jordanian rapid deployment forces have only one aim — backing Israel in its task against the Arabs and prolonging the Arab catastrophe which was caused by U.S. interests. Therefore, the Jordanian forces are hostile to pan-Arab objectives.

Actually, the task is not new. The Jordanian regime's army had previously intervened against the anti-British revolution in Iraq in 1941, the revolution which is known as the Rashid 'Ali al-Khaylani revolution. That was a rapid intervention under the standards that existed in those days. As we said, the task is not new, but the framework is new. The framework is what President Reagan termed the strategic consensus; in other words gathering Israel with defeatist Arab rulers under the U.S. umbrella to guarantee continued Israeli-U.S. hegemony over the Arab homeland.

There is something else that does not do any honor to the Jordanian regime. Until recently, rapid intervention was carried out with U.S. soldiers. But the American people, care about the lives and blood of their sons, although they do not care as much about the rights of peoples. These American people have restricted the U.S. Administration's freedom in disposing of U.S. blood; in other words, they restricted its freedom in dispatching the U.S. Army for intervention. Therefore, other non-American blood had to be found and spilled so that American blood would be protected and not wasted. The Jordanian rapid intervention, therefore, means that Jordanian Arab blood is the cheapest, in the opinion of the United States. Therefore, this blood is suitable to sacrifice for the sake of American blood and interests. When the Jordanian regime accepts such a humiliation, this means that it accepts Jordanian Arab blood being a curse on itself and on the Arab nation. The American soldier, therefore, is paying something in lieu of military service. That something is not money, but sacred Arab blood which the Jordanian regime is offering on the U.S. imperialist-Zionist alter.

Palestine Broadcast on 'Arafat's Practices, Crimes

JN232033 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Palestine broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] One day, the PNC members opened their mouths wide, and Hani al-Hasan, a close adviser to Yasir 'Arafat, admitted: We have forced Israel to occupy southern Lebanon. He added: George Brown deceived us. One day, the PNC members were also surprised when Yasir 'Arafat concluded his address to the representatives of the Federation of the European Students Union, which also represents the imperialist method, by receiving a medal in front of the PNC and chanting the Masonic slogan instead of chanting for free Arab Palestine.

The PNC members were witnesses to these incidents as they were witnesses to Yasir 'Arafat's justification for his contacts with the genuine Zionists by claiming that Rakah Party is also a Zionist [as heard]. Later, he apologized for this claim and agreed on deleting it from the session's minutes after he sensed that the PNC members did not accept that lie and maneuver. Hani al-Hasan has admitted that Yasir 'Arafat has enabled Israel to occupy southern Lebanon. He also admitted that Brown had deceived 'Arafat during the Lebanese crisis in 1976. Yasir 'Arafat also revealed his dangerous ties with Zionism when he chanted the Masonic movement's slogan and disclosed his ties with that movement, which is known for its support for Zionism. Despite this, Yasir 'Arafat is trying to prove through the reactionary, rightist, imperialist, and Zionist media that his supporters' aggression against the national forces in Tripoli was a Syrian conspiracy.

'Arafat's rightist partners in the Fatah leadership are also trying to repeat the same allegations. But can Yasir 'Arafat and his group answer the following questions? First, who armed the so-called Islamic Unification Movement in Tripoli? Second, who supplied this movement with more than $30,000,000 out of which $20,000,000 were stolen by Yasir 'Arafat from the national fund. This amount of money was donated by Palestinian workers in the

Gulf to be used for extending help to our kinfolk in Lebanon. But Yasir 'Arafat did not deposit it in the Palestinian national fund. Instead, he gave the money to the Islamic Unification Movement to kill the progressive Lebanese. Third, if the Tripoli incident was a Syrian conspiracy to justify a Syrian interference in Tripoli against Yasir 'Arafat, how can he and his rightist partners in the Fatah Central Committee explain Syria's noninterference despite the crimes committed by 'Arafat and his supporters in Tripoli? Yasir 'Arafat's actions were intended to make the Syrians interfere to rescue the nationalist Lebanese as was the case in 1976 when Yasir 'Arafat attacked the As-Sa'iqah, the Nasirites, and the Palestine Liberation Army in Beirut. Therefore, Yasir 'Arafat was the side that plotted. But his conspiracy failed. Consequently, he was exposed, and he tried to absolve himself and his supporters from the Tripoli crime, which was meant to provoke the Syrians.

Now, we will ask the sons of our Palestinian people. How can we let such a person, who concocts conspiracies against the lives of our sons and the Lebanese nationalists and commits such crimes with the aim of provoking Syria continue to play with fire? Despite this, 'Arafat's supporters are still talking about strategic alliance with Syria and levelling accusations against Syria. Who is responsible for saving our sons from that evil, Masonic mentality? The sons of Palestine are responsible for that.

Shamir Blames Syria, USSR for Beirut Bombing

TA261016 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Israel knows that Syria and the terrorists active on its behalf, enjoying Soviet support, were behind the attack on the U.S. and French soldiers' commands in Beirut. This was stated this morning by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in a meeting with an Israel Bonds leaders' delegation from the United States. He praised the U.S. President's stance that one should not give in to terrorism. Surrender to terrorism now would mean that Syria would succeed in its scheme of taking over Lebanon, and that Syria and its proteges would control the Middle East.

On Israel's security situation, Shamir said it is now better than ever before. Since the Peace for Galilee campaign, the PLO has almost stopped existing as a political and military power. The Israeli-Lebanese border is quiet and the Galilee is serene.

On Israel's relations with the United States, the prime minister said there is cooperation and understanding between the two countries on many issues. In the coming days, a high-level U.S. delegation will arrive in Israel, and Shamir himself hopes to meet President Reagan and Secretary of State Shultz in the next few weeks to discuss ways of speeding up the peace process in the region.

Two IDF Soldiers Killed North of Tyre in Lebanon

TA260514 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Corporal Mordekhay Dar'i, 19, from Bet She'an, and Sergeant Dan Silk, 27, from Haifa, were killed yesterday by fire directed from an ambush north of Tyre. This was announced by the IDF spokesman. The terrorists' ambush was in the area of the Shabriha village on the coastal road.

The funeral of Cpl Dar'i will take place at 1500 today. He will be buried in the Bet She'an cemetery.

Further Details of Ambush

TA260720 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Report by military correspondent Shmuel Tal — recorded]

[Text] At nearly 1730 yesterday, two IDF vehicles, a jeep and command car from Rosh Haniqra were traveling north of Tyre, near the village of Shabriha. Fire was suddenly opened at them from ambush, from a banana plantation on the side of the road. The terrorists directed small arms fire, an RPG, and a handgrenade at the command car, which was traveling in front. The command car was hit, continued to move several meters ahead, and then stopped. The soldiers immediately returned fire at their attackers, and additional forces rushed to their aid. However, darkness descended and the squad, which had apparently prepared the ambush well in advance as well as an appropriate escape route, managed to get away from the area. The IDF imposed a curfew on the villages in the area, and searches continued all night. The families of the two dead soldiers have been informed.

An ambush was set in the southern approaches to Sidon a week ago and two border policemen were killed. The squad responsible for yesterday's attack may be the same one responsible for the incident a week ago. It is relatively easy to set ambushes in this area, which is full of plantations. At the same time, the IDF is making enormous efforts to prevent terrorist activity. The IDF soldiers conduct patrols and lay ambushes and have managed to prevent a number of terrorist acts.

Arens To Visit Washington in Early December

TA252013 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens will depart for Washington in early December for talks with administration leaders. Our political correspondent Yoram Ronen reports that the two countries' involvement in Lebanon as well as the compensation Israel will demand [tidrosh] in return for the establishment of the Jordanian Army commando unit — which is being trained by U.S. officers — will be the topical issues. The bilateral talks will actually begin as early as next Wednesday in Jerusalem when a U.S. delegation headed by Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger arrives.

Shi'ite Businesses Stage Strike in Sidon

TA251740 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] This afternoon there was an almost full commercial strike by the Shi'ites in southern Lebanon, and many Sunni Muslims joined it in the town of Sidon and the surrounding villages. The strike was held to protest last week's incident in which three Shi'ites were killed by IDF gunfire. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that there were a few incidents of tire-burning and setting up roadblocks; however, the IDF soldiers refrained from entering the Shi'ite villages. IDF vehicles refrained from entering the town of An-Nabatiyah as well.

Haddad Comments on Beirut Bombing; Health Noted

TA251335 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 25 Oct 83 p 12

[Report by Menahem Rahat]

[Text] The commander of the territorial unit in southern Lebanon, Major Sa'd Haddad, met yesterday in Metulla with two California senators and their entourage. Haddad's guests and friends saw the signs of his illness noticeable in his appearance: his hair, which was thick until a very short time ago, appears sparse under his famous hat.

Less than 2 weeks ago, Haddad seemed to be healthy and to have recovered, and the journalists with whom he met at a news conference in Metulla to mark his release from the Haifa Rambam Hospital found it hard to decide, on the evidence of what they saw, whether the man was ill or healthy. Yesterday Haddad appeared to be ill.

Even the smile on Haddad's face appeared to be very weak. His voice was not normal and he lacked the decisiveness and self-confidence that characterized him in the past. As if this were not enough, he seemed to have lost height. "The man is tired and ill," his interlocutors said, "apparently from the strength of the severe radiation he was forced to undergo and the treatment and medication he is receiving."

Haddad himself refused to comment on his condition and only continued to hold on to his version that he was not ill and only needed a few weeks' vacation. Despite his vacation, he is keeping an alert watch over the developments in Lebanon, especially southern Lebanon. He is kind enough to meet from time to time with visitors sent by the Foreign Ministry to Metulla to meet with him. Yesterday Haddad met in the Arazim Hotel with the president of the California Senate, Democrat David Roberti, who is considered to be one of President Reagan's personal friends, and Republican Representative (Dean Deiner). After being filmed with them from all possible angles, at their request, Haddad told them: "The attack in Beirut is the result of the Soviets' fear about the U.S. intention to establish a NATO base in Lebanon. The Russians, together with their servants the Syrians and with the aid of leftist elements in Lebanon, are the ones who committed the crime in Beirut."

Haddad pointed out that, in his opinion, among those who helped with the attack were officers from the Lebanese Army who are collaborating with the Syrians. "It is well known that the Syrians, with the Soviets' support and using Shi'ite, Druze, and Palestinian fighters, have decided to carry out guerrilla actions against the Americans and their allies."

Maj Haddad told his visitors that he would advise the Americans not to show too much involvement in Lebanon. "We need moral help more than anything else. In the military field, they would do better to let us settle matters ourselves. Only Lebanon itself, with Israeli help, can save Lebanon and create a broad basis for peace." Haddad also said that the Americans, after having placed themselves in Lebanon, would do better to stay there. "The Americans' leaving Lebanon now would mean the return of the Syrians and terrorists at a time when Amin al-Jumayyil is not prepared to stop their taking over."

Haddad asked Senator Roberti to pass onto President Reagan the condolences of the people in southern Lebanon and his shared sorrow with the U.S. nation over the serious tragedy they have suffered in Beirut.

'Several Thousand' Lebanese Enter, Do Not Leave

TA251336 Tel Aviv Yedi'ot Aharonot in Hebrew 25 Oct 83 pp 1,6

[Report by Eytan Haber]

[Text] For some time now the security authorities in Israel have been somewhat embarrassed. Several thousand Lebanese citizens who crossed into Israel from Lebanon for both personal and business reasons have disappeared and not returned to Lebanon. According to all indications, the Lebanese have dispersed among the minority villages, mainly in the north of Israel. The security authorities do not yet know how many Lebanese are involved and assessments vary between 2,000 and 10,000 people.

These Lebanese began coming immediately after the fighting in the Lebanese war had died down, when former Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon ordered a policy of "open bridges" similar to what is being done with the Jordan River bridges. According to the orders, Lebanese citizens were permitted to come to visit Israel and they had to show Lebanese identity cards at the border crossings. Immediately after permission was given for this, many Lebanese came to Israel and showed identity cards. The police now think many of the identity cards were forged. The identity cards can be purchased in various places in Lebanon, in the Sidon market, among others. The cost of a forged Lebanese identity card ranges from 5 to 20 Lebanese pounds. In addition to this, registrations at the border crossings were not precise.

It is assumed that most of those who came from Lebanon to Israel were Palestinians who have relatives in Israel. They have been swallowed up in the northern villages and have not returned to Lebanon. Another way to infiltrate Israel is through weddings involving Israeli minority groups and young girls from Lebanon. Some of the security personnel claim that hundreds of brides have been brought into Israel from Lebanon, but it is thought that this figure is exaggerated and it is only a question of several dozen.

About 100-200 cars have also arrived in Israel, most of them Mercedes, which have not been returned to Lebanon. The assumption is that the cars, some of them stolen or hired, have been broken up into parts and sold to dealers, mainly in the territories.

The security authorities are embarrassed about this situation. A police proposal to close off several Arab villages in the Galilee for the purpose of detaining and questioning the inhabitants to uncover the Lebanese has been rejected for fear of grave public reaction.

Over the last few days security personnel have also been heard to make serious complaints about the situation at the border crossings. The people at the border crossings are doing their best, but this is not enough. Last night a security man told us: "Even today boobytrapped cars can be brought in."

The police, for their part, have stationed sappers at the border crossings that are under IDF responsibility in an attempt to uncover weapons inside cars. So far many methods of bringing weapons in automobiles have been discovered. Recently, security personnel discovered that hashish was being brought into Israel in liquid form. It has also turned out that Lebanese vehicles that have to undergo tests for roadworthiness in special garages in the north of Israel are not driving to the garages authorized for this purpose, but are continuing to drive south and disappearing.

"The situation reminds me of the crossing between Mexico and the United States," a senior security man said, and stressed how absurd the situation is with respect to border crossings in Lebanon: "Haddad's soldiers' cars cannot cross the border.

They stay at the border station for reasons of security, whereas terrorists can cross over into Israel with a boobytrapped Mercedes car. Current orders permit them to do this."

DAVAR Analyzes Reasons for Staying in Lebanon

TA251212 Tel Aviv Davar in Hebrew 25 Oct 83 p 5

[Commentary by Hagay Eshed: "What Is There To Do in Lebanon"]

[Text] In view of the serious military blow taken by the Americans and French in Beirut — and this really is a serious military blow, in addition to being a shocking tragedy — we should consider, with cold logic and sobriety, whether there is any advantage to or possibility of leaving the Multinational Force in Beirut and the IDF in southern Lebanon, and if so, for how long.

It is only natural that the voices of most important people have already been heard in the United States calling for "the Marines to be brought home," and in Israel for the "IDF to be brought home." Some of these are voices that have been heard in the past, and now they are being repeated in the form of "I told you so." Some of them are new voices. We should certainly recall Professor Henry Kissinger, who has also joined in this old-new chorus. These voices are contrasted with the Governments of the United States, France, Britain, and Italy, whose leaders have already announced their firm decision not to surrender to evil terrorism and — in any event, not now and not in the context of the disaster in Beirut — not to discuss a withdrawal of the Multinational Force units from Lebanon.

Those who are calling for an immediate withdrawal, today or tomorrow, are, knowingly or not, using the "false target exercise." They set imaginary objectives, absolutely unrealistic ones, unlimited in scale and time for the continuation of the Multinational Force's presence in Beirut and the IDF's stay on the Al-Awwali line. Afterward they knock these targets down with a loud, strong voice. It is obvious that after an unobtainable objective has been set, it is easy to prove, purely by using words, that the unobtainable objective is really unobtainable.

To prevent vagueness and lack of clarity, what is needed is to immediately detail the objectives that cannot be obtained either today or tomorrow. It is impossible to establish a central, strong government in Lebanon. It is impossible to achieve genuine national reconciliation with any real, operative significance among the fighting factions, or among the branches fighting among themselves. There is no chance for an evacuation of all foreign forces from Lebanon, and first and foremost the Syrian Army and the rebellious PLO units (which are, in fact, a Syrian support force). There is no chance in the foreseeable future of safeguarding Lebanon's territorial integrity and making the central Beirut government's rule applicable to all areas of Lebanon.

All these objectives are unobtainable, and there is no point or advantage in repeatedly knocking them down every time someone tries to set them up again, with vain words or the stroke of a pen. A clear distinction should be drawn between putting the blame on the Government of Israel under the leadership of Menahem Begin and Ari'el Sharon for having set for themselves and the IDF unobtainable objectives, and a discussion of the question of what to do now and from now on. A clear distinction should be drawn between the situation post factum and the very beginning. There is considerable use — political, personal, and historical — in condemning the mistakes of the past and learning lessons from these mistakes. However, this condemnation cannot replace a discussion of the operative question of what to do. When the house goes up in flames, the first thing to do is to put out the fire and save human lives, and only after that, or at the same time and separately, to examine the reasons for the fire and decide on preventive measures for the future, based on the lessons of the past.

It is according to this consideration that we should ask, and then answer, the question of what the operational objective is for leaving the Multinational Force in Beirut. Is it essential, can it be achieved in the foreseeable future and for a bearable price, even in the worst case illustrated by the disaster in Beirut? These questions should have been asked at the same time, separately, about the IDF's stay in southern Lebanon: Why, for how long, and at what cost.

There is one answer to these parallel questions, and it is definitely positive. The objective is: Training and equipping the Lebanese Army; and, to be more precise, three divisions of the Lebanese Army that will be under the rule of the legitimate Government of Lebanon (which is founded on a Beirut coalition of Maronites and Sunnis), and that will have sufficient action capability to achieve several goals vital to Lebanon itself, to Israel, and to the United States and its allies in Europe.

It is a fact that the U.S. Army is now occupied, theoretically and practically, with training and equipping such a Lebanese Army. It is fact that this Lebanese Army, which is now in the first stages of getting organized, being trained, and equipped, has already undergone a fairly serious baptism of fire. It is a fact that it is not a rival either of the Syrian Army or the IDF, but it could be a rival with an operational edge over the Druze and Shi'ite militia groups within a few months. This is on two conditions: One, that the Americans continue to train it, equip it, and ready it for the fighting required in the Lebanese arena. The Americans are doing this now, but they will stop doing this if the Marines are removed from the soil of Lebanon.

The second condition is that the IDF not leave southern Lebanon before the training and readying of this Lebanese Army is completed.

This refers to a limited, defined period of time, perhaps a year, perhaps 18 months at most. This time may not be sufficient for training the three divisions of the Lebanese Army. This U.S. attempt may fail in the end. However, it has a reasonable chance of succeeding. No line of action has any certainty in advance of succeeding or failing. This is a definite period of time, and the cost could be worthwhile if this operational goal is really achieved.

This is a price that is first of all worthwhile for Israel, but not only for Israel. Israel has a vital interest in the fact that after the

IDF withdraws from southern Lebanon it will have someone to hand the keys over to, that it will not leave chaos behind, that the region of southern Lebanon will be under the rule of a territorial Lebanese military division which will impose order on southern Lebanon through "Lebanese measures" which Israel does not want to use and is incapable of using. And such order is apparently impossible without these measures.

Even after a Lebanese division is established in the south, one which will include Haddad's forces and also replace them, Israeli aid will be needed to safeguard its security in the 45 km-strip in the south, and even to impose law and order there. Israeli patrols will be needed, as well as the right to maintain aerial patrols and all the other security arrangements detailed in the Israeli-Lebanese-U.S. agreement of May 1983.

Anyone who jeers at this, as if it were "superfluous agreement," as if it were one of Ari'el Sharon's errors and should be torn up and thrown to the winds; anyone who still describes this agreement as a "peace agreement imposed by Israel" does not know what he is talking about and bears a very heavy responsibility for the security of Israel and the peace of the Galilee.

There is no question now of a peace agreement, but mainly of security arrangements in southern Lebanon which are essential for Israel, for Lebanese peace, and also for U.S. and European interests. This is essential to prevent another war in the future, one more terrible and dangerous than its predecessors. Such a war will unavoidably break out if the IDF and the Multinational Force withdraw from Lebanon too soon, before the Lebanese Army is trained and equipped and prepared to take upon itself the role of imposing law and order on Beirut, in the region of southern Lebanon, and in the coastal strip connecting Beirut and the south.

This is the area vital to Israel's security and even to the remnants of the legitimate government of Beirut, which must stand up against Syrian control of it. This is on condition that the governments and public opinion in Israel and the United States do not surrender to the pressure of Syrian terror and do not fall prey to the mistakes of wrong thinking, such as the "false target approach" described above.

If this minimal objective is achieved, it will be possible to negotiate with Syria about an arrangement that will not be a surrender to Syrian dictate. And this must be remembered:
Anyone who is preaching an arrangement with the Syrians now, when they have the upper hand and there is not yet a Lebanese Army with sufficient operational ability, is in fact preaching the cancellation of the agreement for security arrangements in southern Lebanon. Anyone preaching the immediate withdrawal from southern Lebanon of the IDF and of the Multinatioanl Force from Beirut before the objectives described above are achieved, should already be aware and admit freely that he is proposing to give up security arrangements in southern Lebanon in accordance with the Syrians' ultimatum-like demand. He should not pay empty lip service to Israel's security and peace for the Galilee.

Morning Press Comments on Events in Grenada

TA261314 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0441 GMT 26 Oct 83

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *Davar* writes that from the point of view of President President Reagan, the operation in Grenada is gambling everything on the pot. In a single stroke, within 3 days, Mr Reagan risked regaining the image which Jimmy Carter tried to give him during the 1980 election campaign, the image of a warmonger who would cause the death of U.S. youths overseas. If Mr Reagan emerges from this past week's events having gained his people's admiration for his stubbornness and fighting spirit, he will have scored a victory. However, if he seems to them both aggressive and wrong, he will have lost.

Hamodi'a believes that the short timespan between the disaster befalling the U.S. Marines in Beirut and the U.S. Marines' invasion of Grenada gives the impression that this is no coincidence. It is clear now that President Reagan wanted to drive a message home to the Soviets that he will not put up with their continued subversion in the Caribbean islands. Regardless of whether Mr Reagan wanted to prove U.S. power at this time of shock in order to divert attention, or whether he meant it as a reaction addressed to the known recipient, the result is that a new focus of international tension has been created. This can be judged by the reactions heard yesterday.

FRG Warned Against Supplying Arms to Saudis

TA250948 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 25 Oct 83 p 2

[Report by David Landau]

[Text] Israel has made it clear to West Germany that it will not accept any differentiation between "defensive" weapons and "offensive" weapons in the context of possible West German arms sales to Saudi Arabia.

The deputy director-general of the Foreign Ministry, Hanan Baron, summoned the West Germany charge d'affaires yesterday and asked him to convey this position to Bonn.

The move follows recent indications by the West Germany Government that it would be prepared to discuss with Riyadh supplies of Roland anti-aircraft missiles and Gepard anti-aircraft tanks for the Saudi Armed Forces. West Germany has consistently refused to consider supplying Saudi Arabia with its Leopard II tanks and Bonn officials draw a distinction between the Leopard — which they characterize as an offensive weapon — and the anti-aircraft armaments — which are regarded as defensive.

Baron referred to the "responsibilities" towards Israel imposed upon West Germany by its recent history. He pointed out to the charge d'affairs, Franz Sikora, that Saudi Arabia preached a policy of Jihad (holy war) against Israel.

Hitherto, Baron observed, West Germany had maintained a policy of avoiding any armed sales to protaganists in the Middle East conflict. Israel, he said was "concerned" that this restriction might now be eased.

Municipal Election Held, Results Reported

TA260614 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] The main characteristic of the local elections is the large number of places where new elections will have to be held. These places include Ramat Gan, Netanya, Ashdod, Ramla, Beersheba, Zefat, Qiryat Shemona, and Qiryat Ata. There will also be new elections in Ofaqim, Gan Yavne, Sederot, Yeroham Hod Hasharon, Ramat Hasharon, Rosh Ha'ayin, and Mevaseret Ziyyon. The second round of elections will take place on 8 November.

The mayors of the large cities, [Alignment's] Kollek in Jerusalem, [Likud's] Lahat in Tel Aviv, and [Alignment's] Gur'el in Haifa were reelected. The Alignment's Dov Tavori in Petah Tiqva has also been reelected.

Another problem is the majority in the mayor's councils. So far Kollek's list in Jerusalem has gained 47 percent in the council, followed by the Likud list with 12 percent. In Haifa, Gur'el has 48 percent in the council, followed by the Likud list with 14 percent. In Tel Aviv, Lahat has not won a majority in the council.

Another phenomenon of these elections is the upheavals in three municipalities: In Herzliyya, Likud's Eli Landau defeated Alignment's Yosef Nevo, the former mayor; in Bet She'an, Likud's Shlomo Ben-Lulu defeated Yitzhaq Qeynan; and in Rishon Leziyyon, Alignment's Me'ir Nitzan defeated Likud's Hananya Gibstein, the former mayor.

ALGERIA

Economic Cooperation Accord Signed With Tunisia
LD221257 Algiers APS in English 1039 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Tunisia, 22-10-83 (APS) — The three day official visit in Tunisia by C.C. member Minister of Planning Mr Abdelhamid Brahimi and land parcelling out was sanctioned by the signing of an official report defining the big lines of the Algero-Tunisian cooperation in field of planning in mid and long term. The signing ceremony took place in Tunisia in presence of the members of the two delegations. Before the signing of the document, Mr Brahimi was audienced in Carthage Palace by President Habib Bourguiba who reiterated on this occasion Tunisia's will to work relentlessly in all fields. During his visit, the minister was audienced by Mr Mohamed Mzali, prime minister, and Beji Caid es-Sebsi, foreign affairs minister, and many other high officials.

Mr Brahimi held working sessions with the Tunisian delegations presided over by Mr Ismail Khalil, minister of plan. Talks dealt especially with the economic cooperation between the two countries, with the cooperation in field of planning, statistics, common projects of territorial improvement, and the regional development of bordering zones. Recalling, the brotherhood and concord treaty and signed in Tunisia on the 19 March 1983, between Algeria and Tunisia and the higher directives of President Chadli Bendjedid and Habib Bourguiba. [sentence as received] The two sides dealt with the works of big joint commission held in Algiers on the 23 and 24 latest April and had in this regard put emphasis on the visit of Mr Abdelhamid Brahimi in Tunisia which is aimed at reinforcing links of friendship and solidarity unifying the Algerian and the Tunisian peoples and at intensifying the Algero-Tunisian cooperation in all the fields.

Messaadia Receives Lebanese Party Official
LD251345 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Algiers, 25 Oct (APS) — Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the [FLN] Political Bureau and official in charge of the party's permanent secretariat, yesterday afternoon received (Riyad Ra'd), member of the leadership of the Lebanese Patriotic Movement and official in charge of external relations in the Lebanese Progressive Socialist party. Mr Riyad was carrying a message to President Chadli Bendjedid, secretary-general of the party and president of the republic, from Mr Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Patriotic Movement. Talks between the two sides concentrated on developments in the Lebanese arena.

Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives for Talks
LD251127 Tehran IRNA in English 0900 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Algiers, Oct. 25 IRNA — Deputy Foreign Minister in charge of political affairs Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam arrived here on Monday. He earlier visited friendly countries including Syria and Libya. At the airport here he was welcomed by Director General of the Foreign Ministry of Algeria Haj Ben Abdulqader [spelling of name as received]. Sheykh ol-Eslam was due to hold talks with Algerian officials.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Sends Message to UN on Grenada
LD252237 Tripoli JANA in English 1922 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 19, Oct 25, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1st of September Revolution, sent an urgent message to the chairman and members of the UN Security Council, UN secretary general, the current chairman of the UN General Assembly, and heads of state of the world on the armed invasion staged by the United States and six other countries against Grenada. It reads as follows:

The current events in Grenada have killed any hope of the smaller nations like Grenada to live free on this earth. What is happening now in Grenada did not kill the freedom of the people of Grenada only but also the civilisation of the 20th century and exposed it as fraud.

The arrival of people like Reagan to power in an aggressive country like the USA, is an indicator to the defeat of humanity and a retreat to the era of barbarism, law of the jungle, and the illogical. Nothing can rescue humanity and civilisation which are now being buried but an international alliance to invade the United States itself and impose the principles of humanity and freedom and justice as well as purge the spirit of evil and Nazism in the United States which has become a threat to the freedom of all the smaller nations and world peace.

There are no terms available in all the languages of the world that can describe this intervention. It is the most critical precedents and violations [as received] of both sovereignty and internal affairs. To bear the horror of a third world war is much easier than to bear the responsibility of an ugly violation and international madness against what is left of human values which are being slaughtered today in the tiny island of Grenada as they are being slaughtered in Palestine, Lebanon, Namibia, Ireland, and Azania [Southern Africa] and tomorrow comes the turn of the rest of the helpless peaceful peoples such as the people of Grenada.

The international community with all its organisations, institutions, and material and moral resources, should make a move and take an action that rescues the island of Grenada and repulse the barbaric military invasion staged by the United States and some antifreedom and fascist governments of Latin American states. Let the new Hitler of the world understand that in the end, Hitler had fallen to his actions and the people were victorious. Death to the new power-obsessed Naziists, glory to the people of Grenada, the sacred victim, and victory to the people.

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Demands Emergency UN Session
LD252238 Tripoli JANA in English 1903 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 19, Oct 25, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahriyah today called for an emergency session of the UN Security Council to take immediate measures to stop the U.S. invasion of the Republic of Grenada. JANA political editor commented that this invasion is an act of barbarism planned and executed by the Reagan administration to subjguate the free people of Grenada. He said this is another face of destabilizing world security amid threats to the Gulf of Sidra, the shelling of Beirut, and now Grenada's invasion. By drawing the swords of war, the U.S. is exposing the whole of the world to the threat of war without feeling any responsibility whatsoever.

The editor added that the Libyan Arab people pledge support to the people of Grenada and back it in its legitimate confrontation of this reactionary-American armed invasion. "Our principled stand is in defence of freedom and people's right to live in peace according to their own free choices," he concluded.

Al-Qadhdhafi Telephones Bendjedid, Fahd

LD251359 Tripoli JANA in English 0957 GMT 25 Oct 83

[TEXT] Tripoli, Muharram 19, Oct 25, JAMAHIRIYAH NES AGENCY — Revolution's leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, telephoned last night President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria and King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia.

His conversation with them was focused on correct Arab situation and the steps needed to confront the new crusade being waged against the Arab world. Similar contacts are also being made with the Palestinian forces and the Lebanese National Salvation Front.

MAURITANIA

Algerian Minister Arrives With Bendjedid Message

LD232358 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text]Said Ait-Messaoudene, member of the Central Committee and Algerian minister of light industry, arrived in the capital this evening carrying a message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state. The Algerian envoy was welcomed at the airport by the minister of health and social affairs, Mohamed Mahmoud Ould Deh. The Algerian minister talked to the radio about his mission and he said:

[Begin recording] This visit falls in the framework of strengthening the fraternal cooperation in Algerian-Mauritanian relations. I am happy and also honored to carry a personal message from the brother president of the republic, President Chadli Bendjedid, to his brother, His Excellency President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, and this is within the framework of the policy of consultation between the two fraternal countries, and particularly between the two presidents. We always seek to strengthen relations and continue the cooperation between the two countries. [end recording]

Received by Prime Minister

AB242235 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Colonel Maayoui Sid Ahmed Ould Taya, prime minister and minister of national defense, received in audience this morning Said Ait-Messaoudene, Algerian minister of light industry and special envoy of President Chadli Bendjedid. During the audience, the Algerian messenger conveyed to the prime minister a message from President Bendjedid for his brother and friend, Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the CMSN and head of state.

After the audience which was attended by Major Mohamed Mahmoud Ould Deh, minister of health and labor and acting minister of industry and mines, the Algerian messenger pointed out that the message is within the framework of contacts between the two heads of state; It also demonstrates Algerian solidarity with Mauritania in the difficult situation caused by the drought. In this regard, the Algerian messenger disclosed that measures were being taken in Algeria in order to assist the Mauritanian Government in its actions to check the effects of this calamity.

MOROCCO

UAE President, Delegation Arrives for Visit

LD250009 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan arrived in Morocco this evening from Algeria on a private visit. He was welcomed at Sale Airport by Moroccan Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed, Prime Minister Maati Bouabid, some government officials, and Ahmed ben Soudah, the king's adviser. Also present were the UAE ambassador to Rabat, Abdullah ibn Ali al-Zaawi; the governor of Rabat/Sale, Omer ben Shamsi; the agent for Sale, Abdelkhaliq ben Jaloun; and others. Shaykh Zayid is accompanied on the visit by Shaykh Rashid al-Mu'alla, ruler of Umm al-Qaiwayn and member of the Higher Council; and Shaykh Ahmad as-Suwaydi, the president's adviser.

SUDAN

Numayri Cables Condolences to Reagan, Mitterrand

JN251551 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Khartoum, 25 Oct (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri sent cables to U.S. President Ronald Reagan and French President Francois Mitterrand in which he expressed his condolences concerning the victims of the Beirut explosion who fell last Sunday. In these cables, the president strongly condemned this irresponsible act of terrorism and the persons behind it and expressed the hope that this incident will not affect the noble and positive role which the U.S. and French forces are playing in the maintenance of peace in Lebanon. The president ended his cables by extending his warmest condolences to the families of the victims and to Presidents Reagan and Mitterrand.

$100 Million Trade Protocol Concluded With PRC

JN251856 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1735 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Khartoum, 25 Oct (SUNA) — A trade protocol was concluded here today between Sudan and the PRC for 1983 - 1984 in the amount of $ 100 million. On the Sudanese side, Ahmad Salim Ahmad, minister of state for cooperation, commerce, and supply, and on the PRC side, the PRC ambassador in Khartoum signed the protocol. After concluding the protocol, Minister Ahmad said that his ministry will do its utmost to implement this protocol. He praised the developing standard of trade exchange between Sudan and the PRC. He said this protocol reflects the standard of relations in various fields, particularly the trade field.

The PRC ambassador affirmed that relations between Sudan and the PRC are established on mutual understanding and confidence. He said the trade exchange supports and develops the friendly relations between the two countries, and added that the 1983 - 1984 protocol is based on the principle of exchanged benefits. He affirmed that his country will implement this trade protocol which is being concluded between the two countries. According to this protocol, Sudan will import commodities from the PRC which include light equipment and machinery, tea, drugs, medical accessories, paper, office equipment, and craftsmen equipment in the amount of $50 million. The protocol includes Sudan's exports to the PRC which are cotton, glue, sesame, and some agricultural products. It is worth noting that the trade protocol between Sudan and the PRC is renewed annually and emanates from the trade agreement which was concluded between the two countries in 1962. The PRC is the number one country importing Sudanese cotton.

'Official Text' of Sudanese-Romanian Declaration

JN250920 Khartoum SUNA in English 1606 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Khartoum, Oct 24, (SUNA) — The Sudan and Socialist Romania issued a joint declaration which was released at 13 hrs GMT today at the conclusion of a three-day visit by the Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu to Sudan. The communique stressed on the need for world peace for the promotion of development and disarmament. It further covered cooperation between the two countries in the various spheres and the two leaders' identical viewpoints on international issues particularly Afro-Arab problems. Here below is the official text of the joint Sudanese-Romanian declaration.

1. At the invitation of President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and Madame Numayri, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, accompanied by Comrade Elena Ceausescu, paid an official friendship visit to the Democratic Republic of the Sudan from 22-24 October 1983.

2. Official talks were conducted between the president of Sudanese Socialist Union, President of the Republic of the Sudan Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, and the general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, President of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, in a cordial atmosphere of mutual understanding and confidence. During the talks a far-reaching analysis was under relations of friendship and cooperation and an exchange of views was made on the current problems of international life. [sentence as received]

On the Sudanese side:

2. [Number as received] Ibrahim Mun'im Mansur, member of the Executive Bureau of the central leadership of the SSU and minister of finance and economic planning (chairman of the Sudanese side in the ministerial joint committee between Sudan and Romania.)

3. Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, minister of foreign affairs

4. Dr. Ahmad as-Sayyid Hamad, adviser to the president of republic for political affairs

5. Muhammad Dawud al-Khalifah, adviser to the president for development and production

6. Ahmad Salim Ahmad, minister of state in the Ministry of Cooperation, Trade and Supply

7. General Yusuf Husayn, commander of Sudanese Naval Force

8. Professor 'Abd ar-Rahman Abu Zayd, head of Central Secretariat of the central leadership of the SSU

9. 'Umar Muhammad Yasin, roving ambassador, presidency of the republic

10. 'Ali Muhammad, director of East European department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

11. Mustafa 'Ali Rabab, director of the department of political affairs, presidency of the republic.

On the Romanian side:

2. [Number as received] Madame Elena Ceausescu, member of the Political Executive Committee of the CC of the RCP and 1st deputy prime minister of the government.

3. H.E. Iosif Banc, member of the Political Executive Committee of the Central Committee and secretary of the CC of the RCP

4. H.E. Gheorghe Oprea, member of the Executive Political Committee of the Central Committee and first deputy

5. H.E. Stefan Andrei, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee fo the Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs.

6. H.E. Constantin Manea, counsellor of the president of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

7. H.E. Gheorghe Airinei, ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Romania to Khartoum.

8. H.E. Petre Tanasie, director in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
1.

3. Analysing the stage of development of the relations between the Democratic Republic of the Sudan and the Socialist Republic of Romania, the two heads of state expressed their satisfaction at the steady strengthening of the friendship, solidarity,and cooperation between their countries and peoples in the spirit of the treaty of friendship and cooperation signed in Khartoum on the 25th of April 1979. In this context, they singled out the positive evaluation of the cooperation in political, economic, cultural, social, and other fields of common interest, the intensification of Sudanese-Romanian (?cooperation) [words indistinct]

Emphasizing the essential importance of economic cooperation and trade for the relations between the two countries and peoples as a whole, and taking into account the significant possibilities they have, the priorities of their programmes of economic and social development, the two heads of state decided that efforts be intensified for increasing the volume and for diversifying trade exchanges, for development of cooperation for production in the fields of energy, hydro-energy, mining, oil exploration, refining and transport, agriculture, eletrification, cotton processing, food industry, petrochemical industry, construction work, transports, mail, and telecommunications. The president of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan and the president of the Socialist Republic of Romanian valued the efforts done and the fruitful results of the work performed by the political joint commission and the joint commission of economic and technical cooperaton held recently in Khartoum, and decided that the competent bodies of the two countries adopt efficient measures to ensure the fulfillment of the understanding achieved in the best conditions.

Desiring also to strengthen cooperation in other fields of ties and cooperation in the fields of science, culture, sports, and mass media. [sentence as received] In this respect, they agreed to encourage direct contacts and cooperation between the parliaments, governmental bodies, institutions, and bodies of speciality from the respective domains.

The president of the Sudanese Socialist Union and the general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party highly appreciated the relations of cooperation existing between the Romanian Communist Party. They stressed their determination [words indistinct] information and [words indistinct] peoples. At the same time the desire was expressed to step up contacts between youth, women's, trade union and other organization. President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and President Nicolae Ceausescu expressed their profound conviction that the development and deepening of the relations of friendship and cooperation in the political economic, technical, scientific, cultural, sports and other fields between the Democratic Republic of the Sudan and the Socialist Republic of Romanian serve the interests of the two countries and peoples and represent, at the same time, an important contribution to the strengthening of cooperation among developing countries, to the promotion of peace and understanding among all the states and people sof the world.

Examining the present problems of international affairs, president of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan [and] president of the Socialist Republic of Romanian expressed their deep concern over the serious tension which has become manifest in international relations, as a result the (?tendency) of the policy of the use of threat of force in inter-state relations, of consolidating zones and spheres of influence, of interference and intervention in the domestic affairs of other states, of maintaining of confrontation war in various parts of the world, of the unprecedented pace of the arms race, particularly nuclear arms race, and (?of the) lack of progress in the efforts for liquidating underdevelopment and establishing a new world economic order.

8. View of these dangerous developments, President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and President Nicolae Ceausescu emphasized that on the basis of the responsibility towards the destiny of mankind, and the inviolable right of the peoples to existence, life, freedom,and peace, all states have the supreme duty to act now, by taking concrete measures, in a constructive spirit of cooperation so as to contribute effectively in order to halt the trend toward confrontation, to the radical recovery of international climate, to the settlement in the interest of peoples of the dangerous and complex problems confronting mankind today.

The two leaders reaffirmed their conviction that peace, security and progress can and must be ensured by strictly applying in the relations among the states, the principles of full equality of rights, respect for national independence and sovereignty, non- international disputes exclusively by peaceful means, respect for the right of every people to decide alone destinies in accordance with its own aspirations.

President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and President Nicolae Ceausescu appreciated that at present the fundamental question in international affairs is the struggle for halting the arms race, achievement of disarmament, in particular nuclear disarmament, for realizing a military balance not by accumulating new arms but by reducing those already in existence, at even lower levels. They pronounced themselves for the cessation of the improvement of nuclear weapons, for the gradual reduction of such weapons, until their complte liquidation and for the prohibition of nuclear weapons tests, they pointed out the importance of adopting measures to ban all kinds of weapons of mass destruction, including chemical weapons, and bring about disarmament in the field of conventional weapons. The two sides emphasized the necessity and importance to freeze without delay military budgets, to cut military expenditures, troops and weapons, to ban the production of new types and systems of weapons.

They pointed out the necessity that the means which will be set free in the process of disarmament should be utilized for the of all, for the assistance of developing countries. The two presidents reaffirm their decision to further make efforts, togethet with other states of the world, with all democratic and peace loving nations which are interested in maintaining and strengthening of peace for disarmament and preventing war. They appreciated the importance of mass movements in favour of disarmament and peace which are taking place in different parts of the world.

President of the Democratic Republic of Sudan and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania expressed their profound preoccupation in connection with the particular dangerous situation in Europe as a result of accumulating on the continent of huge military forces and arsenal of weapons, first of all.

Nuclear weapons. Pointing out that for the moment the crucial problem for Europe is the danger of the deployment, even this year, of new medium range missiles, which would open the way of intensification of arms race and increase the danger of war, the two presidents stressed on the urgent necessity to stop the deployment of new medium range missiles in Europe, of elimination and withdrawal of existing ones, of removing all nuclear weapons from the continent. In this respect they appreciated that everything must be done for the successful conclusion of Soviet-American negotiations in Geneva concerning these missiles, by approval of an agreement which will correspond to the interests and aspirations of European peoples, of peace and security on the continent and in the world. They expressed their opinion that it would be necessary that in the case an agreement could not be achieved up to the end of this year, it should agree to postpone the deployment of new nuclear missiles in Europe at least up to the end of 1984, beginning of 1985, and to continue during this period the negotiations to achieve an understanding. They also appreciated that until complete liberation of Europe of any kind of nuclear weapons, a big importance should be devoted to the setting up of nuclear weapon free zones on the continent, in Balkans, North and other sides of Europe.

The two presidents welcome the conclusion of Madrid meeting with positive results, approval by consensus of the final document, achievement of understanding concering convening in 1984 of a conference on measures of confidence and disarmament as well as organization of a number of meetings in the future to ensure the follow up of the process started in Helsinki. They appreciate that now it is necessary to act for the consolidation of the results achieved for promoting security and development of cooperation in Europe.

The two leaders emphasized that the destiny of world peace and security is closely connected with settlement of the development questions. It was expressed the confidence that the liquidation of underdevelopment, the gradual narrowing of the gaps separating the poor from the rich countries, and the insurance of the conditions for the harmonious development of the relations among states in the economic, financial, technological, and scientific areas make up one of the fundamental prerequisites of stability in the world and a heal their international political climate.

Pointing out the amplification of the manifestations of world economic crisis which affect especially the developing countries, the two sides expressed their particular concern over the tendencies of expanding protectionism and [word indistinct] practice of the increase of disproportions between prices of raw materials and industrial products, increase of external debts and the unjustly high rates of interest to credits, to the reduction of the assistance programmes [and] prevention from access to the modern technologies.

The two presidents appreciated that in the conditions of a closer interdependence between rich and poor countries, the exit from economic crisis requires taking again economic activity not only in the developed countries but also revitalization of the developing processes, the ensurance of the conditions that these should regain the dynamic role in the world economy, in increasing international trade. [sentence as received] Pointing out the negative state of world economy and particularly the gravity of the economic situation in developing countries, the two heads of state underlined the urgent necessity of real cooperation between developed and developing countries on the principles of equality, equity to ensure the rapid generalization of the relaunching of the process of development in the developing countries and taking concrete steps toward [word indistinct] of new international economic order more equitable which will take into account the interests of all nations. They appreciated that passing by the economic crisis and relaunching of the process of development in developing countries requires imperatively to start urgently and authentic international economic dialogue between these countries and the developed countries.

At the same time President Ja'far Muhammed Numayri and President Nicolae Ceausescu appreciated as being utmost important countries [as received] the strengthening of their solidarity and unity of action and pronounced themselves in this respect for a high level conference of developing countries to be convened in order to discuss the complex problems of underdevelopment and diversification of the new international economic order of establishing concrete measures of cooperation among developing countries as well as joint strategy for the negotiations with developed countries.

Within the frame of the examination of the situation in Africa, President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and President Nicolae Ceausescu greeted the ever stronger assertion of the desire of peoples and countries of this continent to develop themselves in freedom and independence, without any kind of outside interference. In this view they pointed out the necessity of observance of the principles of the charter of the United Nations Organization and of the Organization of African Unity [OAU] concerning mutual respect by all African states of sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of state borders, noninterference in [word indistinct] integrity inviolability of state borders, noninterference in internal affairs, peaceful solution by negotiations of disputes among them.

The presidents of the Sudan and Romania pointed out the important role of the Organization of African Unity in the struggle against imperialist colonialist and new colonialist policy of apartheid on the continent as well as the efforts made by this organization with a view of a political solution of disputes and tension from Africa for the increase of the contribution of the OAU to the settlement of social economic political and complex problems facing African people, starting with their fundamential interests to live in peace to ensure their free social and economic development. The two presidents appreciated the efforts which are done for future requirements of the programme of the OAU to the present and future requirements of African countries, particularly by stimulating of a stronger economic cooperation among these states of the consolidation of their political independence by ensurance of economic independence of strengthening also on this way of solidarity and unity of African countries. [sentence as received]

They emphasized the necessity to ensure without delay the access to independence by Namibia, the right of the Namibian people to choose freely the path of their future development and reaffirmed their total support for the efforts and steps taken by the UN, by the African countries, by the Nonaligned Movement aiming at finding political solution to the Namibian problem that should take into account the legitimate aspirations and interest of the Namibian people. The two presidents expressed their militant solidarity with the just cause of the Namibian people and reasserted the support of their countries for the struggle of the Namibian people for freedom and independence under the leadership of SWAPO, their legitimate representative.

The two heads of state singled out the need for an urgent and complete liquidation of the policy of apartheid and racial discrimination of South African for ensuring the rights of the majority population in that country to freedom, equality, and social progress. The two sides condemned firmly the repeated aggressive acts of the Pretoria regime agaisnt neighbouring independent African states. The two presidents, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and Nicolae Ceausescu, pointed out their deep concern over the dangerous hotbeds of tension and conflict in different parts of the world.

They underlined that the supreme interests of the peoples, of peace and international security, demand to exclude decisively the policy of force and threatening of force; irrespective of its forms of manifestation; to put an end to the conflicts and armed actions, and to pass to settlement of all problems in dispute among the states only by peaceful means and negotiations in this respect. Referring to the more dangerous situation in Middle East, they reaffirmed their conviction that a comprehensive, just, and durable settlement of the problems in this part of the world can be ensured on the bases of the withdrawal of Israel troops from the Arab territories occupied, determination, and the setting up of an independent state of its own, and the ensurance of security of all the states in the region. They appreciate that one has to start with the principals and central. Both presidents reaffirmed their two countries' full support for the Palestinian Liberation Organization, sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and considered that its participation in all peace negotiations dedicated to the achievement of a just and durable peace in the Middle East constitutes an essential part.

At the same time, the heads of the two states pronounced themselves for the cessation of fight in Lebanon, for national reconciliation, unconditional withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon, respect of independence sovereignty, national unity, and its territorial integrity.

The two sides expressed their anxiety towards continuation of war between Iraq and Iran, which is resulting in huge human and material loss. The two sides declared themselves for an immediate cessation of military hostilities, the withdrawal of forces to international borders existing before the war, and for a start of negotiations for political settlement of the conflict between the two neighbouring countries, on the basis of the United Nations Charter principles.

The president of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan and the President of the Socialist Republic of Romania reaffirmed their conviction that the United Nations Organization is [illegible] adequate forum for multilateral negotiations for debating and settling the major problems confonting mankind. With the view of achieving these aims, the two presidents pronounced themselves for the growth of the role, responsibilities and effectiveness of the world organization, for its adjustment to the requirements and realities of present international life.

The two heads of state pointed out the importance of active participation in condition of full equality in rights of all states of the world, irrespective of their size, political system, or economic military potential to the settlement of questions of nonaligned countries and developing countries have to play a more significant role in debating and settling of major problems of the contemporary world. In this respect they stressed the importance of the activity of non-aligned countries movement in the struggle against national independence, for halting arms race, for disarmament, and forging of a new international economic order. The presidents of the Sudan and Romania have decided to intensify cooperation between the two countries in the international arena within the UN and its specialized agencies in the Group of 77 and in the Non-aligned Movement in order to bring their contribution to the just and democratic settlement of the major problems of international life of promoting peace, security and cooperation in the whole world.

The general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, President of the Socialist Republic of Romanian Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu accompanied by Comrade Elena Ceausescu visited social cultural and economic units in Khartoum.

Everywhere at the sites they visited, the high Romanian guests were welcomed and met with particular esteem and warm hospitality by the citizens of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan as an expression of the feelings of friendship solidarity and respect which Sudanese and Romanian peoples owe each other. President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and President Nicolae Ceausescu express their deep satisfaction with the fruitful results of the talks they had, understanding and decisions agreed upon on the occasion of the visit. They express their conviction that these will give a new decisive impetus to the deepening and expanding of bilateral cooperation in many fields, as well as cooperation between the two countries in international arena. They appeciate that the results of the visit confirm once again the particular important role of high-level meetings in fixing up the course of the development of the Sudanese Romanian relations.

The secretary general of the Romanian Communist Party, President of the Socialist Republic of Romanian Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu and Comrade Elena Ceausescu expressed cordial thanks to the president of the Sudanese Socialist Union, President of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and to Madame Numayri and Sudanese people for the warm reception and hospitality they enjoyed during the visit. Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, president of the Socialist Republic of Romanian, and Comrade Elena Ceausescu extended to the president of the Sudanese Socialist Union, President of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan Ja'far Muhammad Numayri an invitation to pay, accompanied by Madame Numayri, an official visit of friendship to the Socialist Republic of [illegible] The invitation was accepted with pleasure. The date of the visit is to be fixed at later time through diplomatic channels.

Khartoum Criminal Courts Implement Shari'a Law

JN241204 Khartoum SUNA in English 1045 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Oct (SUNA) — The criminal court of central Khartoum area sentenced yesterday a man for the amputation of the right hand and left leg after being found guilty of a burglary offence. The man was convincted for breaking into a textile store in Khartoum main market and stealing a number of electric equipments and electronic watches. The court ruled that the sentence should be carried out in public place. Meanwhile, southern Khartoum criminal court sentenced yesterday a man for hand amputation after being found guilty of stealing clothes worth LS. 250 from a house in Khartoum south SUNA learned. The same court also sentenced yesterday 26 defendants for 40 lashes each after convicting them of liquor drinking. Meanwhile, the National Capital Commissioner General Babiker el-Tom said execution of Islamic punishments would begin at Kobar Central Prison earlier next November.

BENIN

Kerekou Receives Gabonese, Congolese Ministers

AB242030 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Two African officials were at President Kerekou's office early this afternoon. They are their excellencies Jose Joseph Amiar-Nganga and Bernard Combo-Matsiona, respectively Gabonese minister of professional formation and promotion of handicrafts, and member of the Central Committee of the Congolese Labor Party and Congolese minister of labor. Both brought messages from their presidents to the head of state. The two officials were shown into the presidential office by Tiamiou Adjibade, our minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. After leaving the presidential office, our reporter Francois Agossou asked them the purpose of their talks with President Kerekoku. The Gabonese minister of professional formation and promotion of handicrafts answered first:

[Begin recording] [Amiar-Nganga] The purpose of my visit is to convey to the head of state a personal message from President Bongo. As you know, as with all other messages, I cannot disclose the contents of this message.

[Agosou] Can you tell us about the recent development of cooperation between the two countries?

[Amiar-Nganga] I think that my presence in Cotonou already proves the strength of this cooperation. As our leaders used to say, African probiems are solved in an African way. We think that whether or not there was a misunderstanding, at this moment I think that in fact everything has been settled. [Words indistinct] everything is very well between Benin and Gabon.

[Agossou] What do you think of the future of cooperation between the two countries?

[Amiar-Nganga] Let us say that it will resume and be exactly like it was in the past. Therefore, after resuming the cooperation, it will be exactly like what we had in the past. It will even be strengthened. [end recording]

As for the Congolese minister of labor, he expressed satisfaction at the excellent relations between the two parties and the two states. He appreciated the harmony of the two countries' opinions.

[Begin recording] [Combo-Matsiona] As you know, our continent of Africa is facing serious difficulties. It is a task for the revolutionary states to have permanent contacts in order to work together to find suitable solutions. President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, leader of the Congolese revolution, has sent us to his brother, President Mathieu Kerekou, leader of the Beninese revolution, to bring him his views on a number of topics. That is what we have just done.

[Agosou] Can you tell us about the recent development of cooperation between the two parties and the two governments?

[Combo-Matsiona] There are no problems between Benin and Congo. The two countries have the same ideology, follow the same system, have identical problems, and also have identical solutions to those problems. [end recording]

GAMBIA

Janneh Named Minister of Lands, Local Government

AB211135 Paris AFP in English 1124 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Banjul, Oct 21 (AFP) — Amulai Janneh has been named minister of lands and local government in succession to Kebba Jawara, who resigned recently for health reasons. Mr Janneh was formerly deputy speaker of the Gambian Parliament.

GHANA

Accra Reports U.S. Military Action in Grenada

AB251350 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The ruling Revolutionary Military Council in Grenada has called on all citizens to report to military barracks to help defend the country. This follows an attack on the island by U.S. troops who landed there in three helicopters after taking off from Barbados. In a radio broadcast, the military authorities said Grenada was under attack by American troops. Latest reports say the airport in the capital, St Georges, as well as Radio Free Grenada have fallen to the invaders. The Revolutionary Military Council came to power last Wednesday in a bloody coup in which the prime minister, Mr Maurice Bishop, and several of his supporters were killed. Earlier, the council said it intended to restore civilian rule on the island. To this end it had been holding meetings with bankers and other professional groups to sound their opinions.

In another development, the curfew imposed on the island immediately after the coup was relaxed. Reports say there are about 1,500 foreign nationals on the island. Britain and the United States have made contingency arrangements for the evacuation of their nationals from the island.

Condemnation of Action Reported

AB260800 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Many countries have condemned the invasion of Grenada by American troops and forces of six Caribbean nations. The Soviet Union said America has no business to be in Grenada and demanded the immediate withdrawal of her troops from the island. In London, news of the invasion was received with an uproar in the House of Commons. The British prime minister, Mrs Margeret Thatcher, said the United States has invaded Grenada against the advice of Britain. The French president, Mr Francois Mitterrand, said no country has the right to send troops to another nation unless expressly asked to do so by the country concerned. Sweden, Cuba, and Nicaragua have similarly condemned the invasion. The UN Security Council is holding an emergency session to discuss the situation in Grenada at the request of Nicaragua. The United States yesterday formally informed the UN secretary general of her military action in Grenada.

Reports from Grenada itself say the multinational invasion force led by U.S. paratroopers have taken control of a number of strategic positions on the island. These include the airport, Radio Free Grenada, the local power station, medical stores, and two airfields all in the capital of St Georges. There have also been reports of fighting between the invaders and Cuban construction workers at the airport. The Cubans were under instructions from Havana to defend themselves if attacked. Other reports say an undetermined number of Cubans have been killed in the encounter. At a news conference in Washington, President Reagan explained that the U.S. troops are in Grenada upon request from a number of Caribbean countries. He said they will protect innocent lives, including a number of foreign nationals, forestall further violence, and help restore order and democracy to Grenada.

Soviet Mineral, Trade Union Delegations Reported

AB251600 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] A four-man Soviet bauxite team today left Accra after conducting feasibility studies on the Kyebi bauxite deposits. While in the country, the team visited Awaso and Hinahene mines. In an interview with newsmen, the leader of the delegation, Mr Nemeyev, said their trip was a follow-up to an agreement signed between Ghana and the Soviet Union last year on scientific, technical, and economic cooperation. Also in the country is a delegation from the Soviet Trade Union Committee led by its chairman, (Matsari Ratsku). He told newsmen on arrival that the visit is to strengthen the traditional ties between the General Agricultural Workers' Union of the trades union congress of both countries. Mr (Ratsku) said the delegation would share common knowledge with its Ghanaian counterparts which could be of benefit to both countries.

British High Commissioner on PNDC Policies, BBC

AB252135 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The British high commissioner in Ghana, Kelvin Burns, declared today that his government recognizes the hope and opportunity created in the country by the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] through its economic policy. He said by contrast, the Limann administration had been a terrible disappointment. In reference to the PNDC's economic recovery program, Mr Burns observed that measures being initiated by the government were long overdue. He agreed that these measures would have been easier to carry out if they had been introduced and implemented some 5 to 10 years ago. Mr Burns was speaking at the Castle Osu, when he called on the chairman of the PNDC, Flight Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings.

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Present at the meeting were P.V. [redacted] secretary, and Kofi Djin, acting secretary for foreign affairs. The high commissioner said there was no misunderstanding about the intention behind the economic policy which he described as courageous. Mr Burns was confident that Britain would attend next month's consultative group meeting on Ghana being hosted by the World Bank in Paris. He hinted that it has become the policy of the British Government to mobilize foreign investment for Ghana toward its economic development.

On human rights, Mr Burns said he was happy about the release of most political detainees and steps being taken by the government to review the cases of certain convicted prisoners. He said this process is in the right direction and hoped that it would continue. Flight Lt Rawlings, in reply, said the government was in the process of achieving the atmosphere needed for positive social and economic advancement. He disclosed that the investment code was being updated and would soon be made public. The PNDC chairman expressed appreciation for the contribution so far made by Britain to Ghana. He, however, stated that the basis for any focus on Ghana should be on the present process by the hard-working people of this country and not on the PNDC government.

Chairman Rawlings hoped that the development of the weaker economy in the world will reduce dependence on the more developed countries. In response to Mr Obeng's remarks about the misuse of the BBC against the revolution, Mr Burns explained that successive British prime ministers occasionally expressed concern about the performance of the BBC. He noted that lots of what the BBC carry about Ghana consisted of personal opinions of individuals with little information. He said that BBC correspondent is based in Abidjan which is not the most effective place to cover events from Ghana.

Defense Secretary, Police Commissioner Named

AB211605 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] The PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] has appointed Rear Admiral C.K. Djan, retired, as the new secretary for defense. Mr S.S. Omane, former commissioner of police, has also been recalled to the Ghana Police Service. A special statement issued in Accra today said both appointments take immediate effect.

Lagos Reports PDCs Reject Governments Goods

AB251030 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Twelve zonal coordinators of Ghana's People's Defense Committees, PDC, in the Accra district have rejected goods allocated to them by the government for distribution to the public through the people's shops. A statement issued by the zonal secretariat of the coordinators in Accra explained that it will be impracticable to distribute the items because they were insufficient when compared with figures of the recent population census in the area. The rejected allocations were made through the Ministry of Trade. It included bags of rice, sugar, and liters of cooking oil. The zonal coordinators, the first group to reject government allocations on grounds of inadequacy, said that what they were offered fell below the statistical figures of the adult population and houses in the 12 zones of the district. They said only goods which will be enough to cover nearly every household will be accepted.

Police Defense Committee, Task Force 'Dissolved'

AB252210 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The Western Regional Police Defense Committee and the Regional Police Task Force have been dissolved with immediate effect. The decision was taken at a meeting of the police in Sekondi. The action followed allegations of improper composition and the members' involvement in acts contrary to code and ethics of the police service. These acts, the meeting also noted, are in conflict with the aspirations of the revolution. In addition, the secretariat of the regional police defense committee has been removed from Takorai to the regional police headquarters in Sekondi.

Meanwhile, a 19-member Interim Management Committee, IMC, has been appointed to run the affairs of the two police bodies pending new elections. The meeting also ordered the deposed officers to hand over all arms and ammunition in possession of the task force secretariat to the deputy commissioner of police in charge of the region.

LIBERIA

Doe Commends People for 'Determination'

AB250830 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The people of Liberia have been commended for their determination to endure hardships resulting from stringent financial measures taken by government to ensure the future development of the country. Making the commendation, the head of state, Commander in Chief Samuel Doe specifically mentioned the positive reaction of Liberians to the National Savings Bond Scheme, reduction of salaries across the board for all government employees, and the increase in certain taxes.

He said though these measures were initiated at a time of rising expectations by Liberians, they, however, believe that the recovery of their country's economy and its development was first and foremost their responsibility, adding Liberians view external assistance as a supplement to their own efforts.

The CIC was speaking yesterday at the Universal Postal Union, UPU, headquarters in Bern, Switzerland, where he addressed the representatives of some 29 governments attending the current donors conference on Liberia. He said the people's positive reaction to these measures could be attributed to the very popular base of the Liberian revolution. However, head of state Doe said the Liberian Government believes that taxation and contributions by the citizenry to self-help development projects have reached a level that any further increase may have negative effects on the country.

Soviet Medical Equipment Donation Reported

AB252030 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Yesterday, the Soviet Embassy in Monrovia donated $50,000 worth of medical supplies to the Redemption Hospital in New Krutown. The Soviet ambassador, Mr Anatoliy Ulanov, made the presentation to the vice head of state. The consignment included eight sets of medical equipment and instruments. Ambassador Ulanov said the medicine [as heard] was in response to an appeal of the Liberian Government for assistance. He said immediately following the 12 April revolution, the Soviet Government dispatched to Liberia medical supplies. The vice head of state, responding, said he was grateful to friendly nations who are ready to render assistance to improve the health standards of the Liberian people.

Daily Says PRC Should Reconsider Quiwonkpa

AB242030 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The first public reaction to the dismissal of General Thomas Quiwonkpa has come from the *Daily Observer* newspaper, a local newspaper in Monrovia. In an editorial today entitled, "Lessons To Be Learned," the *Daily Observer* appealed to the People's Redemption Council [PRC] to reconsider its decision to strip Gen Quiwonkpa of the benefits normally associated with retirement. The paper said in its [word indistinct] appeal and in recognition of Gen Quiwonkpa's contribution to the Liberian revolution, the PRC should reconsider its decision.

Assembly To Present Draft Constitution

AB252025 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Members of the Constitutional Advisory Assembly will this Friday present to the head of state the report of the Constitutional Advisory Assembly. The ceremony will be held at the Unity Conference Center in Virginia, outside Monrovia. The Constitutional Advisory Assembly completed its review of the draft constitution last week in Gbarnga, Bong County. Members of the PRC [People's Redemption Council], Cabinet ministers, heads of public corporations, and members of the diplomatic corps are expected to attend. The cermony will also be attended by superintendents of counties and territories, chiefs, district commissioners, and three elders from each area.

MALI

Traore Returns to Bamako From Ouagadougou

AB250730 Bamako Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Excerpt] President Moussa Traore returned to Bamako last night at the end of a friendly working visit to Ouagadougou in Upper Volta. He was met on arrival at the Bamako Senoo Airport by members of the Executive Bureau of the Democratic Union of Malian People, members of the government and the National

Assembly, representatives of democratic organizations, and many other personalities, including the chancellor of the national orders, the governor of the Bamako District, and the chief of protocol.

NIGERIA

Shagari Sends Letter to Senate on Appointments

AB242245 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The Senate today received a letter from President Shehu Shagari in reply to an earlier letter from the legislature requesting the president to furnish it with more information on his ministerial nominees. President Shagari had forwarded to the Senate for approval a list containing 35 names of persons to be appointed ministers.

In today's letter, the president said, while he conceded that the information sought by the Senate might facilitate its work, there were obvious tactical and constitutional difficulties attendant on such an exercise at this time. He pointed out that unlike the American system where departments were created by law and were therefore (?loyal) to the Senate, Nigeria's Constitution was a carry-over of the parliamentary usage. President Shagari quoted relevant sections of the Constitution to support his petition. He said this in effect meant that the offices of ministers could be created from time to time depending on the exigencies of the moment, the sole object being to promote the smooth functioning of government in the interest of the people. The president explained that he had pointed out this difference between the set-up in Nigeria and that of the United States exists because it was possible that it was the American pattern that might have influenced the thinking of the Senate on the issue. President Shehu Shagari said it would therefore be a futile exercise that would in fact amount to misleading if he were to provide the information it required and thereafter exercise his discretionary powers under the Constitution to assign responsibilities to the vice president or any minister of the government contrary to the infromation previously given to the legislature.

President Shagari said in the case of the attorney-general's office position, the position was established not by the executive but by the Constitution. He stated that it was for this reason that he had taken pains to designate in the list of ministers forwarded to the Senate the person whom he intended to appoint as the attorney-general of the federation.

Nine Win Scholarships To Study in USSR

AB251930 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Excerpt] The Federal Ministry of Education has released the names of nine candidates who have won scholarships to do postgraduate courses in the Soviet Union. A statement by the Ministry of Lagos today requested the nine candidates to report immediately at its bureau for external aid for predeparture arrangements.

Items Donated to ANC College in Tanzania

AB251030 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Nigeria has donated 67 packages of household items worth $37,000 to the ANC Malango Freedom College, Tanzania. At the presentation ceremony in Dar es Salaam, Nigeria's high commissioner to Tanzania, Mr R.I. Egbuziem, pledged the country's continued diplomatic and material support within and outside the framework of the OAU to African liberation movements. He told the students of the institution that the noble objectives of their college, which among others was the eradication of apartheid from South Africa and the complete decolonization of the African Continent, fell perfectly in line with the cardinal foreign policy posture of Nigeria in Africa. The Malango Freedom College was set up in the wake of the Soweto massacre to cater for students thrown out of schools for political reasons by the racist South African fascist regime.

Airways To Resume Flights to Kinshasa

AB251910 Lagos NAN in English 1700 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Ikeja, Oct 25 (NAN) — The Nigeria Airways is to resume normal flight operation to Kinshasa, Zaire, after almost 20 years break, a NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) investigation has revealed. The first flight leaves Murtala Mohammed Airport on Nov. 22 with a 139-seater Boeing 727. Flights to Kinshasa, which used to be operated on a 39-seater P-27 aircraft, were suspended in 1965 when, according to records, the aircraft available to Nigeria Airways could not cope with the number of routes being operated by the airline. The airlines' public relations manager, Alhaji Yinka Tobun, today confirmed the story and told NAN that the re-opening of the route was due to passenger demands. Alhaji Tobun also said that the Lagos/Nairobi route was being extended to Addis Ababa in Ethiopia. According to him, the Lagos/Nairobi flight will, once a week, stop over in Kinshasa.

Ban on Public Meetings Extended in Plateau

AB251855 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The ban on public meetings and assemblies in Plateau State has been further extended for 14 days. The order took effect from yesterday. A statement by the state public relations department advised party leaders and the general public to cooperate with the police to maintain law and order.

SENEGAL

Diouf Expresses Sympathy on Beirut Attacks

AB260730 Dakar Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Excerpt] The Council of Ministers met yesterday under the chairmanship of the head of state. We read to you an extract of the official communique submitted to the press by the minister of information and spokesman of the government. In his report, the president first of all expressed the Senegalese people's and his own deep emotion on the murderous attacks against French and American contingents of the multinational peacekeeping force in Beirut. The head of state indicated that as soon as he heard about the ignoble attacks, he sent messages of sympathy and support to Presidents Reagan and Mitterrand.

TOGO

Eyadema Expresses Regret on Beirut Attack

AB251345 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 25 Oct 83

is on the third day of his official visit to the United States today. Yesterday afternoon the founding chairman of the Togolese People's Rally was received at the White House by his American counterpart, Ronald Reagan. At this meeting the president of the republic expressed his condolences to the American President upon the bomb attack last Sunday in Beirut which resulted in the death of 191 persons, according to the latest report by the American Marines contingent in Beirut. In an message to President Reagan published upon his arrival at the White House, President Eyadema condemned the odious terrorist act against the Marines and expressed his conviction that the United States would persevere in their courageous efforts to maintain peace in the Middle East and in the world.

UPPER VOLTA

More on Visit of Malian President Traore

Traore Press Conference

AB251010 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Press Conference given by Malian President Moussa Traore in Ouagadougou on 24 October following a 1-day official and working visit — recorded]

[Text] [Pierre Salam of the UPPER VOLTAN NEWS AGENCY] Mr President, since 1974 there have been talks about a border dispute between Upper Volta and Mali, and since then there have been other governments which have come to power in Upper Volta. In your opinion, are there any factors now which are more favorable for the settlement of this problem?

[Traore] Yes, a political and moral will for the settlement of this border conflict exists, and this is what I have always expected from my Upper Voltan partners, — to look at this border conflict in a dispassionate manner. Let us look at the issue in this way. Are Mali and Upper Volta the only countries that have border disputes? I would say no! When we decided to go to the International Court of Justice at the Hague for a settlement of our dispute, we were presented with a document concerning a border dispute between the United States and Canada. Is it a tragedy to have a border dispute? The tragedy would be our inability to arrive at an agreement. The tragedy is to refuse a dialogue. President Thomas Sankara and I have surpassed what can be described as a tragedy. We have decided to overcome and even go beyond the International Court of Justice to settle this conflict on a bilateral basis. This is what we can say about the dispute which has been existing and still exists between Mali and Upper Volta, but which cannot and will not be able to prevent the fruitful cooperation between the Upper Voltan and Malian peoples.

[Danouho of the Upper Voltan National Radio] Your Excellency Mr President, there is one other question which has been topical, and I would like to put the question in this way. When is Mali going to be integrated into the West African Monetary Union [UMOA] or should it still wait for a long time?

[Traore] In 1975, Mali applied to join the UMOA. But Mali's joining of this union is not just our desire alone. It has also been endorsed by France, with which we signed a financial agreement that permits Mali to become a member of the UMAO. Thus, since 1975, Mali and France have consulted other member states of the union about Mali's membership in the union.

It is therefore for these member states to express their satisfaction and accept Mali's application. It is only when this is done that Mali can become a member of the union. To give here a definite date without consulting the members concerned will be very difficult since Mali's membership does not depend on it alone.

[Unidentified reporter] Could you give us the status of the agropastoral campaign you mentioned in the final communique [words indistinct]?

[Traore] As you know, unfortunately again this year, the Sahelian area was hit by drought. The rains stopped earlier than expected and in certain regions like Mauritania, there were practically no rains.

President Thomas Sankara and I have decided to examine the situation in a more effective way in order to cope with this plague. But to be able to cope with this plague, we must be able to make effective use of our water resources. It will be the duty of the commission which has just been created — the joint Mali-Upper Volta Commission — to study concrete ways of harnessing our water resources and propose specific projects which will be jointly financed by the governments of Upper Volta and other partners who will help us fight the drought within the framework of [words indistinct].

Before I leave you, gentlemen, I would like once again to thank President Thomas Sankara, members of the National Council of the Revolution and the government, and the courageous brotherly people of Upper Volta for the warm and friendly reception they have given me each time I visit this African soil of Upper Volta.

It is not surprising that a representative of Mali should be given such a reception, for historic bonds have united Malians and Upper Voltans in the past, the present, and why not in the future, so that Malians and Upper Voltans feel in each other's country free, independent, and prosperous. Thank you. [applause]

AVP Publication Praises Visit

AB251245 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Mali and Upper Volta are fighting the same enemies. This is how the daily publication of the UPPER VOLTA NEWS AGENCY [AVP] headlined the visit of the Malian head of state to our country. According to the publication, the speed with which General Moussa Traore responded to the invitation of Comrade Thomas Sankara to visit our country shows, if there is any need to show it, that there are no problems in relations between our two countries. It also shows that the two peoples, through their leaders whom they trust, do not need any special ideology nor do they need to pursue any special objectives other than those that respond to the ideals of living in peace and uniting their efforts to fight the common enemy, which is underdevelopment imposed on us by international imperialism and its system of exploitation and oppression.

Can this be otherwise, asks the AVP, since age-old bonds unite the Upper Voltan and Malian peoples, bonds of friendship, bonds of relationship, and bonds of traditional economic relations that have served as the basis for many subregional organizations and geographical groupings? Unfortunately, the publication laments, these bonds in the past have been tarnished by imperialist machinations aimed at dividing the two peoples to be able to better exploit them. Despite these imperialist machinations involving sowing distrust, quarrels, and discord, the two peoples have always found a way of strengthening their brotherhood, unity, and peace. That is why, according to the daily, a worthy tribute should be paid to the two peoples for realizing that it is their duty to find a solution to their own problems, especially when it is a problem concerning two brotherly peoples faced with the same problems.

That is why Comrade Thomas Sankara said he does not regret having gone to Mali, for he met African brothers of similar views who are convinced of the importance of the bonds that unite our two peoples in a deliberate and responsible effort to bring the two peoples together. According to Comrade Sankara, this clear and responsible awareness of the two peoples' duties has finally enabled them to transcend the often too formal state to state relations. Upper Volta, the publication emphasized, has therefore received a statesman who staunchly supports the ideals of the OAU, a man who believes in the capabilities of Malians and Upper Voltans to forge ahead in the future. That is why, the AVP publication concludes, the people of Ouagadougou did not hesitate to demonstrate their enthusiasm and sincere friendship to the Malian president.

Sankara, Others Forego 'Entertainment Allowances'

AB212245 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Yes, something unheard of before in Upper Volta: The head of state, the chairman of government institutions, and Cabinet members have voluntarily given up their entertainment allowances for the entire year, 1984, in favor of the Revolutionary Defense Committee [CDR] activities. I am now going to read to you the decree providing for the giving up of the allowances:

The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and head of state decrees:

Article 1.

During the 1984 fiscal year, the chairman of institutions and the Cabinet members freely will cede their entertainment allowances to the provinces for the funding of general-interest projects to be implemented.

Article 2.

The minister of finance is charged with the implementation of the present decree which will be put on records and published in the republic's official journal.

The gesture is a great one and shows that the pace of changes has reached a greater speed. Here is the statement that Comrade Adama Toure, the minister of information and the revolutionary government's spokesman, made in explaining the gesture:

[Statement read by the announcer] The active support demonstrated by the Upper Voltan masses for the popular and democratic revolution since the night of 4 August 1983 in the setting up of CDRs all over the country and through permanent general mobilization for public-interest activities shows that the current revolutionary process has reached all of our people within 3 months.

At present, all over the national territory, it is essentially through general-interest activities that the people organized into CDRs are showing their massive adherence to the just cause of the CNR and the revolutionary government. The CNR and the revolutionary government also have the patriotic duty of supporting and encouraging the productive activites of the masses and all other similar initiatives taken by the masses, because if the people continue to show their readiness and their concrete commitment to the revolution every day, the revolutionary leadership must be able to make them persevere by giving them the means of production and the basic tools.

This is why Comrade President Thomas Sankara proposed this decree to the recent Cabinet meeting which approved it in order to further show the masses the willingness and the irreversible commitment of the CNR and the revolutionary government alongside the masses in the efforts toward better living conditions.

As a result, the comrade chairman of the CNR is giving up his monthly entertainment allowance of 300,000 CFA francs while the comrade grand chancellor of the National Orders and president of the Supreme Court, as well as the comrade members of the government, will give up their 75,000 CFA monthly allowance.

This will enable the Upper Voltan people mobilized in CDRs in the provinces to acquire the basic means for general-interest operations, the means for greater production, harder work, and better living conditions; the means to contribute to a national, independent economy.

[Signed] Adam Toure, minister of information and spokesman of the revolutionary government

Statement on Illegal Introduction of Weapons

AB240750 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Press statement by Secretary of State for Interior and Security Ernest Ouedraogo in Ouagadougou on 23 October 1983 — read by announcer]

[Text] Some sinister persons who are nostalgic about a reactionary past which is gone forever are trying to introduce weapons and ammunitions into the national territory with the evident intention to destabilize the revolutionary process launched on 4 August 1983. Apart from measures taken by the authorities in order to strengthen the gains of the revolution against reactionary vermin, the comrade secretary of state for interior and security is calling on the revolutionary people to cooperate closely with internal security agents. Within this framework, citizens are called upon to report to the nearest gendarmery and police station the presence of any foreigner whom they are harboring or who is being harbored by their neighbors. It remains clear that the free movement of honest people and their goods remain guaranteed. The fatherland or death, we shall overcome. Ouagadougou, 23 October 1983. [signed] Commissioner Ernest Ouedraogo, secretary of state for interior and security.

Council of Ministers Creates Two Directorates

AB210852 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Excerpts] The Council of Ministers met on Wednesday, 19 October 1983, from 0900 to 2020 under the chairmanship of Comrade Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and head of state. Before adjourning, the council made some appointments and effected some retirements and dismissals. The council also examined and adopted a new administrative plan for the Ministry of Information. It is worth stressing that this reorganization is important and urgent because the ministry, which in the past was attached to the Department of Posts and Telecommunications or even confined in a state secretariat, needs a new breath of air in order to respond to the demands of the revolution, of which it must be the driving force. This is why it has become imperative to change and therefore to redefine and specify the new objectives assigned to our organs of information in conformity with the anti-imperialist struggle engaged in by the CNR and the revolutionary government.

In this regard, the general objective of the official information organs is to contribute, through sound, image, and writing, to raising the level of political consciousness of the Upper Voltan people, mobilize them and make them responsible for the patriotic task, give a new value to and safeguard the national patrimony, help in bringing the Upper Voltan people closer to the other struggling peoples thanks to a just, sound, and militant system of information, and revive and consolidate their action toward the establishment of a new international order based on peace, social justice, and popular progress. The new plan which was prepared at a meeting of technical directors — a meeting which was also attended by many of the cadres of the department — introduced a number of innovations. One of these innovations is the creation of two new directorates, the publicity directorate and the commercial directorate.

The publicity directorate will facilitate the healthy supervision and organization and a better exploitation of this sector which has, for a long time, remained a jungle exploited by foreign announcers and those who indulge in malpractices. This institution will operate in close collaboration with our organs of press which, in turn, will enjoy financial assistance in agreement with the department of finance. As for the commercial directorate, it is created by merging the former printing division with the sectors dealing with promotion — the sale of newspapers — and accounting, and the general directorate of written press which now contains two directorates, one of which is the newspapers section.

Other institutions have also been included in the plan: the National Press Council, the Cadres Conference, and the Press House. The National Press Council is a political structure which is responsible for media control and orientation. It is made up of representatives of the CNR, Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR], and delegates from the different ministerial departments whose names will be determined by the Council of Ministers. The second institution, which is technical — the Cadres Conference — is made up of all the officials of the department and the representatives of workers of the Ministry of Information. As a framework for reflection and discussion, it is responsible for studying and making suggestions for the smooth operation of the ministry. The other innovation is the Press House. It will be the meeting place for the Upper Voltan information workers with the information workers of other countries or foreign officials on duty in Upper Volta or invited by our country. Through these meetings and exchanges of ideas, the Press House will help in uplifting the professional level and political consciousness of our workers.

But the most important decision made by the Council of Ministers on Wednesday, 19 October, is the ordinance concerning the dissolution of the special court and the establishment of revolutionary people's tribunals. By this ordinance, the CNR and the Upper Voltan Revolutionary Government wish to demonstrate that true justice is passed by the people, that democratic justice is passed by the people's power, because it conforms with the people's wish — the wish of the immense majority of our people as defined in the CNR's policy statement on 2 October 1983. This popular, democratic, and revolutionary justice opposes the bourgeois justice which is nothing but a parody of justice, a hypocritical justice, in short, a masquerade of sophisticated processes intentionally conceived to mystify the people in order to lead them into continuously accepting all injustices and convince them that their salvation resides in resignation.

This reactionary bourgeois justice has always been denounced and fought against by the popular masses through democratic organizations. The CNR and the revolutionary Upper Voltan Government, in issuing this ordinance, remain true to their just political policy to always serve the people and to permanently defend their interests. Concerning the incident that occurred at the headquarters of the Posts and Telecommunications Office on Tuesday, 18 October 1983, the council wants to inform the people and all Upper Voltan revolutionaries of the following: The CNR and the revolutionary government remain determined to organize the people so that they can take, consolidate, and maintain power in their exclusive interest, because that is what we call a revolution. The people cannot take power and consolidate it if they are not organized on solid bases. In this particular moment of the Upper Voltan revolution, the people must organize themselves in the CDRs in order to assume power and control it. At this present stage of the revolutionary struggle, every action which is not taken within the framework of the CDRs can be harmful to the revolution. The 18 October incident at the Posts and Telecommunications headquarters occurred — it is worth recalling — a few weeks after one that took place at the Upper Voltan Electric Company where the workers, who were organized in management committees, dismissed their corrupt directors. Concerning the compulsory retirements and dismissals, the Council of Ministers decided the following: those compulsorily retired are: Raphael Zongo, press and information technical adviser, exceptional class; Pierre Barry, press and information technical adviser, exceptional class; Cissa Horene, principal press and information technical adviser, first step. Those dismissed are: Paul Yugbare, press and information technical adviser, exceptional class and commissioner; Joachim Zongo, press and information technical adviser, exceptional class and commissioner; Francois Batsole, principal press and information technical adviser, third step and commissioner; Emile Basono, press and information technical adviser, second class, fourth step and commissioner.

Those appointed are: Lamien Watamo, press and information technical adviser, second class, second step and director of the national radio; Serge Theophile Balima, press and information technical adviser, second class, first step and director of the television; Ousseini Diallo, economic adviser, second class, third step and commercial director at the general directorate of newspapers; Paulin Babou Bamoni, press and information technical adviser in training and director of newspapers at the general directorate of newspapers; Pierre Clavaire Songre, principal press and information technical adviser, third step and director of studies, research and equipment; Joseph Guissou, press and information technical adviser, first class, third step and director of technical services; Gaston Kabore, press and information technical adviser, first class, third step and director of the film division; Alhassane Kokoda Ouedraogo, principal press and information technical adviser, first step and director of the UPPER VOLTAN NEWS AGENCY; Yaya Yseeian, principal press and information technical adviser, third step and director of publicity.

CDR Statement Warns of CNR Imposters

AB241445 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Statement issued by the National Secretariat of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolutionary [CDR] — place and date not given]

[Text] Some shady individuals, under the cover of the revolution, indulge in counterrevolutionary and antipopular acts harmful to the revolutionary process started on 4 August 1983. In this way, some comrades, who call themselves envoys of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR], searched some hotels in Ouagadougou. They also held meetings in Koupella and Koutienga in the name of the CNR. They present themselves as officers of the Army in order to extort money from foreign tourists. The National Secretariat of the CDR is informing you that any individual who claims to be an envoy of the CNR must justify himself. It therefore appeals to the people to be vigilant in order to denounce such counterrevolutionaries who will merit an exemplary revolutionary punishment. The fatherland or death! We will overcome!

Signed: Comrade Lieutenant Pierre Ouedraogo, national secretary of the CDR

ANGOLA

Further Reportage on PCF's Marchais Visit

Agreement; Dos Santos Meeting

AB251300 Luanda ANGOP in French 1120 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Luanda, 25 Oct (ANGOP) — The MPLA-Labor Party and the French Communist Party (PCF) signed a political cooperation agreement yesterday evening in Luanda on the eve of the end of the visit to Angola by a PCF delegation led by Georges Marchais, the secretary general of the French Communist Party. The agreement was signed on the Angolan side by Lucio Lara, a member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the party in charge of organization, whereas the French side was represented by Maxime Gremetz, the secretary of the PCF Central Committee.

The secretary general of the French Communist Party was received in audience yesterday afternoon by Angolan head of state Jose Eduardo dos Santos. During this meeting, Georges Marchais was accompanied by Roberto de Almeida, secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party's Central Committee in charge of ideology, and Maxime Gremetz. Also in the afternoon Georges Marchais visited the Kevet bus and Renault vehicle assembly factories, both of which are located in the Viana municipality 15 km from Luanda. At the end of these visits, the secretary general of the French Communist Party presided over a mass rally in the same municipality.

MPLA Secretary Dinner Speech

MB251700 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Speech by Lucio Lara, organizing secretary of the MPLA Central Committee, on behalf of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, at a dinner in honor of Georges Marchais in Luanda on 24 October 1983 — recorded]

[Text] Respected Comrade Georges Marchais, secretary general of the French Communist Party [PCF], dear comrade members of the PCF delegation, his excellency the French ambassador to Angola, and esteemed guests: On this occasion of fraternal intimacy, it is my honor to express on behalf of Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party, the satisfaction felt by our Central Committee and MPLA-Labor Party members for the privilege of receiving in our country such an important PCF delegation, this time headed by its most distinguished leader, our dear friend Georges Marchais. During your stay in Angola we have had the opportunity to recall the old ties of friendship that unite our parties, which date back to the early stages of our struggle for independence, practically since the formation of the MPLA when it was still a liberation movement. We are grateful to note that the links that have united us have remained solid, either through the strengthening of the anticolonialist stand of the PCF, which was displayed during the large-scale liberation of former French colonies, from Vietnam to Algeria, or through the common adherence to the principles that lead the peoples in the construction of a socialist world and the attainment of world peace. We gratefully recall the involvement of the French working class, led by the PCF, in supporting the peoples who fought against Portuguese colonialism, either through the mobilization of French public opinion or through the direct support of our cause, which was carried out by support committees encouraged by French Communists. In the turbulent world in which we live, we have had the opportunity to strengthen our friendship by exchanging delegations, and we would not miss this opportunity to express to you our party's esteem for the extremely important role played by the PCF in the fight for the well-being of the French people, peace, and world progress, particularly for an atmosphere of detente in Europe in which the PCF acts as an undisputed force.

Despite the war that has been imposed upon us and which has received all our efforts and attention, we follow with great interest the dynamic policy pursued by the PCF, which has led it to assume important responsibilities in France by participating in government action. We are certain that the cooperation between our countries, which is of great importance to us, can be strengthened because of this. We are grateful to note that with regard to the question of Namibian independence, France has adopted a public stand that is designed to find an internationally accepted, just solution, and we are grateful that your visit to Angola will contribute to a greater French involvement in the search for the best paths so that the unjust war created by South Africa in Namibia and Angola can soon be brought to an end. Today this war is rapidly spreading to other southern African countries, particularly Mozambique and Lesotho.

It is worth mentioning — respected Comrade Georges Marchais — that your visit to our country has turned out to be an extremely opportune one. Your delegation had the opportunity to assess the violent aggressive nature of the war which has been imposed by the South African military forces. These forces comprise the South African Army, which occupies a large part of our Province of Cunene, and its complementary forces of puppets and all sorts of mercenaries. Here, as in other parts of the world, particularly in the Middle East and Central America, imperialism is promoting and developing the old tactic of destabilizing the progressive and legitimate governments by creating, equipping, arming, and feeding military units of puppets and mercenaries to whom it assigns well-planned missions. These missions include the destruction of economic and strategic objectives, dams, refineries, bridges, factories, and railways, and usually culminate in terrorist massacres of defenseless civilians.

It is an established fact that the coming to power of the Reagan adminstration has radically changed the international move toward an atmosphere of detente, and has thus suddenly aggravated all trouble spots, and stepped up the arms race. Southern Africa has also felt the adverse impact of the new U.S. aggressive policy. South Africa, which had already agreed to sit with SWAPO at the negotiating table in Geneva, has resumed its expanionist ambitions and aggressive policy. It has invaded and occupied a part of Cunene Province and launched mercenary and puppet units — which were well-trained at its bases in Namibia — very deep into Angolan territory. Similar actions have taken place against Mozambique and Lesotho. The incomparable effort made by our people in national reconstruction, which has achieved significant results in industry, agriculture, transport, health, and education, faces a permanent threat and has been systematically destroyed by South African bombs and by the armed gangs in the service of the apartheid regime. All this is taking place with most revolting impunity, which so far the UN mechanisms have not been unable to sanction. Is it not one of the areas in which the progressive forces and the working class of Western countries could play a significant and decisive role?

Our party and government have been seeking to establish good relations of cooperation with the international community. If the socialist path defined by the MPLA-Labor Party has made us give priority to economic links with the socialist camp, the realities of today's world and our economic inheritance from socialism have also justified our search for cooperation with the capitalist world, while preserving our dignity, independence, and sovereignty. The present capitalist crisis, however, cannot but help have a negative effect on our weak economies [as heard], which has led to the unjust situation under which we live in view of the continuing aggravation of the terms of exchange. However, our party and people remain firm in the fight for the establishment of a new economic order. The support given by the international labor movement and socialist countries represents a incalculable force that will not stop bearing fruit.

Esteemed comrades, when you met with militants, people, and children you witnessed their love and desire for peace. The continued maneuvers of the imperialist circles led by the Reagan administration and its servants in racist South Africa indicate that peace cannot be attained in the foreseable future. In a cynical and stubborn manner, and contrary to world opinion, including the opinion of some of its partners in the so-called Contact Group — among which we are pleased to mention France — the racist South Africans, inspired by their American bosses, have invented a new pretext to delay the solution to the Namibian problem and to sabotage the implementation of UN Reolution 435, thus imposing as a precondition for any solution the withdrawal of the Cuban internationalist forces from Angola. You know that as late as 1981 the South African officials themselves, who better than anyone else understood the reasons for the Cuban presence, did not regard this problem as being linked to the Namibian issue.

It was the Reagan administration which assigned them the responsibility of raising the problem of the so-called linkage which now appears regularly in statements made by the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the South African racists. It is obvious that the linkage policy has a wider meaning for the Reagan administration and goes beyond the southern African context, thus seeking to place the struggles of the whole world in the context of the struggle the United States is waging against the Soviet Union so that the United States may seek to prevent the establishment of cooperation relations between the Soviet Union and developing countries. Such a policy, which is naturally doomed to failure, cannot in any way be applied to this region of southern Africa, particularly with regard to the friendly, fraternal presence and support of the Cuban internationalists who, in solidarity with our people, oppose South African aggression against Angola — which has nothing to do with Namibian independence.

Namibian independence is a question in which all UN members have involved themselves since the founding of the United Nations and one to which a solution could have been reached already. The presence of the Cuban internationalist forces is a consequence of the sovereignty of the People's Republic of Angola, which, in view of the invasions it suffered in 1975, requested the fraternal support of the Republic of Cuba. Both governments, in a joint declaration issued in February 1982, noted the reasons for that presence, which will cease as soon as the miniumum conditions for the guarantee of Angolan security with regard to repeated South Africa aggression have been achieved.

Respected Comrade Georges Marchais, dear comrades, your encouraging visit is about to end. We want to say once again how happy we are to have had your historic presence here over these brief days and to state that it has contributed to the strengthening of our unbreakable friendship and dynamic cooperation between our parties and peoples. Carry the fraternal greetings of the MPLA-Labor Party members to the French Communists and from our workers, women, and children to the workers, women, and children of France. We wish you the greatest successes in your fight for the well-being of the French workers.Long live the friendship between the PCF and the MPLA-Labor Party.

The struggle continues. Victory is certain. [applause]

Marchais Dinner Speech

MB260658 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Report on speech by French Communist Party leader Georges Marchais at a dinner with MPLA Central Committee Organzing Secretary Lucio Lara in Luanda on 24 October]

[Text] In reply [to a speech by Lucio Lara] the secretary general of the French Communist Party, Georges Marchais, encouraged the MPLA-Labor Party to be even further dedicated in its efforts for the well-being of the Angolan people and for the expulsion of the South African aggressors from Angolan territory. He also expressed the solidarity of the French Communist Party with the Angolan people.

[Begin Marchais recording in French] It is obvious that the solidarity we expressed to you in the past is once again being reaffirmed on the occasion of this visit. This is why I want to thank you again for inviting us to your country to enable us to say what we had to say. I would like to thank you in the name of our Communist Party and of that solidarity which I have just mentioned. I would also like to thank you in the name of France, for it is, in fact, the voice of our people and the voice of our country that you heard when I unreservedly condemned the odious apartheid regime in South Africa; when I unreservedly condemned the aggression being carried out against you; and when I unreservedly condemned the role being played by South Africa to prevent Namibia from gaining its independence, as has been recognized by the international community. This is to say that this trip, as you can see, is not merely regarded as important, but represents to us much more than a meeting of two fraternal parties which are together in a common struggle. This visit represents the interest which we attach — an interest which our country must increasingly demonstrate — in what is happening in southern Africa. Naturally, there are people who will say that there are other hotbeds of tension in the world. This is absolutely true. This is the case in the Middle East. This is the case in Central America. And each of these hotbeds of tension must draw the attention of all progressive forces of the world. [end recording]

The secretary general of the French Communist Party also deplored the fact that current development is not serving the peoples in several parts of the world.

[Begin Marchais recording in French] People speak a great deal about human rights. It seems to me that people speak about these rights in a very limited sense. To us, I assure you, human rights mean the right of each people to their independence, their sovereignty, and the rejection of external interference in their own affairs. To us, human rights also mean the right of each people to choose the social system which fits them best in the spirit of complete independence. Human rights mean the right of each person to be able to work, to live, to eat well and in good conditions. Human rights mean the right to receive an education and the right to have access to medical services. We say that right cannot only be a right of industrialized countries. [end recording]

Georges Marchais stressed in his speech that human rights mean the freedom of each person to work, not to starve, and to benefit from medical serivces. But the Reagan administration poses a very grave threat to this.

The secretary general of the French Communist Party also stressed that the agreement signed yesterday will contribute toward even closer relations of friendship between the MPLA-Labor Party and the French Communist Party.

Georges Marchais and his delegation are expected to leave the Angolan capital for Paris today. Before leaving, he will give a press conference.

Telecommunications Agreement Signed With Brazil

AB251625 Luanda ANGOP in French 1230 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Luanda, 25 October (ANGOP) — A draft cooperation agreement in the field of telecommunications was signed in Luanda last week between Angola and Brazil within the framework of the general agreement existing between these two countries. It covers technical assistance, the training of Angolan cadres, the supply of equipment, and the inspection of telecommunications projects in particular.

This draft agreement, which was signed by Angolan Minister of Transport and Communications Faustino Muteka and by Brazilian Ambassador to Angola Mauro da Fonse Costa, marks, according to the Angolan minister, a new era in cooperation with Brazil in the field of telecommunications, adding that it will enable both countries to negotiate directly in specific sectors. Angola, he concluded, envisages cooperation with Brazil in this sector as a serious alternative.

UN Group Concludes Study on Assistance Needs

MB260730 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] A delegation of three economists of the UN permanent staff has been in Luanda since Thursday for talks with members of the Angolan Government. The UN mission intends to assess the Angolan situation together with the government for future assistance to all sectors of social development as a result of South Africa's attacks on frontline countries. The three-man UN economic delegation is expected to leave Luanda today. This mission was ordered by the UN Commission for Namibia.

Captured UNITA Members Shown at Huambo Rally

MB260809 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Excerpt] About 100 UNITA counterrevolutionaries captured by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] in actions coordinated with the People's Vigilante Brigades were presented to the residents of Huambo the day before yesterday. Two of them, identified as heads of gangs known as UNITA committees installed in some surrounding residential areas in Huambo, had infiltrated the People's Defense Organization where they were acting as heads of committees in the (Caluweyo) residential area. The main objectives of these counterrevolutionaries were to carry out sabotage and attacks on internationalists, to reconnoiter the location of residences of provincial leaders in order to later abduct and assassinate them, to gather information relating to the military and political situation of the area, and to ensure logistical support for the gangs operating in that province.

During the rally held in Huambo the day before yesterday, 71 out of the 79 [figure as heard] captured bandits were freed in accordance with the clemency policy proclaimed by the MPLA-Labor Party regarding those who are unknowingly led to carry out crimes against the Angolan people.

BOTSWANA

Mozambique Envoy Presents Credentials to Masire

MB220548 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] A Mozambique ambassador has been accredited to Botswana, and Botswana's president, Quett Masire, has described the event as an indication of a mutual desire to widen the scope of cooperation between the two countries. Dr Masire was speaking when the Mozambique ambassador, Rafael Maguni, presented his letters of credence at a ceremony in Gaborone. Mr Masire told the ambassador that Botswana felt proud to have contributed toward Mozambique's 10-year war of liberation. He called on the two countries to consolidate their relations by waging a struggle for economic liberation. Dr Masire described the establishment of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference as a revolutionary step in this direction.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mr Maguni recalled that many Mozambican nationalists found support and care in Botswana on their way to Tanzania to join Frelimo in the early sixties. Mr Maguni is also ambassador to Zimbabwe, where he is based. He is a former director general of Radio Mozambique.

LESOTHO

Trial Scheduled for 12 on Treason Charges

MB260740 Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Twelve people, including a woman, appeared briefly before the chief justice, Mr Justice P.S. Cotran, sitting with two assessors in the High Court yesterday, charged with high treason in an attempt to overthrow the government by violence. Advocate Godfrey Kolisang for the defense asked for a postponement of the trial to enable the defense time to brief senior counsel. Mr Kolisang told the court that the nature of the charge was a serious one and that the accused had instructed the defense to brief senior counsel to represent them at the trial. The chief justice granted the defense application for postponement and set the trial for 6 February next year and that the hearing should proceed for the duration of the month of February, as it is a summary trial and it was essential that once the trial started it should proceed. The accused are charged alternatively with sedition or contravention of the provisions of section 15 of the Internal Security Act, No 6 of 1982.

Mokhehle Rejected as Nominee for Peace Committee

MB240850 Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The Lesotho Peace and Solidarity Committee was formally launched at a public gathering attended by thousands of Basotho at the airport hotel yesterday evening. The gathering consisted of representatives of political parties, women's, youth, and student organizations, trade unions, and churches, and many other persons of good will who yearn for genuine and everlasting global peace. Among the business of the meeting was the formal adoption of the committee's constitution and the election of a central committee. Those elected to office were: chairman, The Honorable V.M. Makhele; secretary general, Mr Ranthumeng Matete; secretary for administration, Mr M.J. Tseetha; secretary for finance, Mr A.T. Nko; secretary for propaganda and public relations, Mr Majara Molapo; secretary for publications, Miss Leneo Mosala; secretary for research and education, Mr Mathibeli Rasekwai. Another outstanding event of the meeting was the unanimous election of the prime minister, The Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, and the minsiter of agriculture, Peete Norena Peete, both as honorary patrons of the committee.

A memorable event surfaced when the name of Mr Ntsu Mokhehle was nominated for the office of secretary for propaganda and public relations. Mr Mokhehle's nomination suffered untold humiliation to the greater popularity of Mr Majara Molapo, who polled 2,107 votes against 3 polled by Mr Mokhehle. Asked for his comments on the stunning victory against Mr Mkhohle, Mr Majara calmly said his victory came as no surprise to him because, as he put it, he has the feeling that any mention of Mr Mokhehle's name to this young generation is like harping on the ancient Greek mythology of reviving what belongs to the museum. He said Mokhehle is a past tense and should be left as such.

MOZAMBIQUE

U.S. Military Action in Grenada Assessed

MB251920 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Station commentary by journalists Teodosio Mbanze and Sulemain Kadir "on the invasion of the island of Grenada"]

[Text] [Teodosio Mbanze] There are neither big nor small nations. This is also one of our beliefs with regard to the field of international policy. In other words, it means that people must be equally respected regardless of their population and the size of their territory. An important step would be made in the international arena if this philosophy constituted the common denominator of all political beliefs. But these ethics are doomed to be disregarded as long as certain countries persist in the megalomania of regarding themselves as superior nations and, as such, as having the right to decide the future of the supposedly inferior nations. This rationale, which is one way of looking in a lofty manner at the causes of the invasion of the island of Grenada, must be seriously considered. In other words, does this rationale by itself justify the invasion of a part of the world convering 344 square km and with a population of 100,000? Yes or (?no)?

The answer cannot be any less controversial than the situation which preceded the invasion of that country in the Caribbean region. We shall concentrate on this situation in our bid to analyze the whys and wherefores of this invasion of Grenada. What appeared to be a confused situation after the armed violence which claimed the life of Prime Minister of Grenada Maurice Bishop on Wednesday, namely, the policy of the regime which was installed and led by the Revolutionary Military Council, has now become clear, for, before everything else, one can conclude that the new Grenada leadership is not pro-United States of America; otherwise, the United States would not have invaded that country today. The confusion which was created can also be explained by the fact that the former leadership of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, which followed a socialist path, had been contested by a new tendency which not only claimed to be revolutionary, but also a leadership which was in agreement with the basic policies of the internal and external policy defined under the leadership of Bishop. Hence the conclusion that the military violence of last Wednesday unpredictably precipitated — albeit in a negative manner — the settlement of an internal conflict between more or less revolutionary tendencies, but certainly socialist ones.

In fact, on the eve of his assassination, Maurice Bishop had just returned from a trip to two socialist countries, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. The results of both visits had been satisfactory, as they had promised a greater dynamism in cooperation between Grenada and the European socialist countries. In this trip 2 weeks ago Bishop had also expected to visit the Soviet Union, but it did not take place due to the heightened tensions in St George, the capital of Grenada, which forced him to urgently return home. The internal contradictions characterizing power in Grenada looked so secondary that the new leadership was not able to present weighty reasons to justify the assassination of Bishop. Now it appears, beyond any shadow of a doubt, that the main opponent of Bishop, Vice Prime Minister Bernard Coard, was simply more radical and it was this radicalism which apparently justified the intervention of U.S. forces in the country, as U.S. President Ronald Reagan said this afternoon [local time] that the invasion was a move to preserve order in the region of the West Indies.

This argument is untenable if one considers that after the events of last Wednesday the U.S. Administration ordered the aircraft carrier *Independence* and other warships to advance from the Mediterranean to the West Indies under the pretext of ensuring the security of 1,000 U.S. citizens residing in that country. Although an analysis which is limited to these considerations might prove the best on the strength of its own clarity, other factors must be taken into account, such as the U.S. strategic viewpoint. We will point out aspects of this viewpoint: First, the U.S. presence in Grenada confirms the U.S. diktat policy in the Central American region and, in fact, we stress the warning to unruly Nicaragua and the message of encouragement which the U.S. Administration is giving to the Salvadoran dictatorial junta. Second, as a result of the first aspect, by aggravating tension in the area with its presence in Grenada, the United States is perhaps trying to provoke a greater internationalization of the conflict in the region in the hope of attracting military intervention by some socialist countries so as to make disarmament and the end to the arms race impossible, just as the previous attempt to block the Geneva talks on the limitation of nuclear weapons in light of the repercussions of the shooting down of a South Korean jumbo jet by the Soviets failed miserably. And now, Sulemain Kadir will expound on these two aspects:

[Kadir] It is evident that Central America and the Caribbean constitute an important strategic axis in the defense of the interests of imperialism. By attempting to eliminate what international observers regard as communist hotbeds in the area through direct intervention in El Salvador, Nicaragua, and now Grenada, imperialism is thus trying to regain support bases in order to install docile regimes that will certainly permit the installation of military bases and communications monitoring stations throughout the area. Just as in Indochina — in Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea — the Caribbean and Central America are today being transformed into a second version of these attempts, which can be explained by the imperialist attempt to regain the control it slowly but surely has been losing right under its very nose. Henry Kissinger, the ideologue of the policy of small advances, was recently charged with carrying out an extremely delicate mission in Central America, where for 2 weeks he visited six countries of the area. He has been charged with drawing up a report, which is more or less advice to the Pentagon, on the boiling situation prevailing in Central America, although it is thought that the report would not be favorable either to the Democratic or Republican Party of the United States, which are only tactically divided over the actions to be taken in Central America and the Carribbean — where Grenada is situated — which is just a stone's throw away. The present invasion is most likely a rehearsal for a new tactic in the total blockade of the Caribbean regimes hostile to Washington's policy in Central America.

It is not only the economic interests existing in the Carribbean-Central America axis that cause concern for imperialism, it is primarily and operationally defense issues, particularly at this moment of tension when the cold war atmosphere is returning. This is evident from the continued watering down of the negotiations on disarmament and the deployment of missiles with nuclear warheads in Europe. This first became evident with the controversial issue of the KAL jumbo jet shot down by Soviet defense forces when it was overflying strategic military installations of the USSR. Now, when mankind has just started expressing its indignation over the U.S. decision to deploy Pershing II and cruise missiles in Western Europe, it is surprised by the reports of the invasion of Grenada by U.S. Marines. To divert international attention from the dangerous situation of the arms race and regain total control of the strategic Caribbean-Central America axis is — it appears to us — one of the objectives of the imperialist program which contains more plans. One of these plans is certainly the continued frustration of the negotiations planned for January 1984 in Stockholm, Sweden to discuss the reduction of nuclear arsenals in the world. U.S. public opinion does not tolerate weaknesss and military inferiority before its adversaries in this field. This is one of the most important points in capturing votes in the upcoming presidential elections in 1984, and Ronald Reagan, after hesitating on a number of occasions, has decided to enter the race. Grenada is probably one of the most coveted targets and springboards in the overally imperialist strategy, and the future will show whether this action is not a spear pointed against the revolution in Central America.

Minister Hails Strengthened Ties With Zambia

MB251500 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The Governments of Mozambique and Zambia have said they will strengthen the ties of friendship between the two countries in the face of South African destabilization efforts and the regional drought. The solidarity between Mozambique and Zambia was stressed in speeches last night in Maputo at a dence. On behalf of the Mozambique Government, Minister of Mineral Resources Jose Carlos Lobo said it was necessary to strengthen unity and to coordinate efforts both at the bilateral level and in the context of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference. The minister paid tribute to the wise leadership of President Kenneth Kaunda, saying Mozambique was sure he would be reelected as president in this week's election. On behalf of the Zambian Government, Ambassador Cox Sikumba noted that Mozambique development programs had been disrupted because of the apartheid regime's aggression. He added that this aggression had failed to dissuade Mozambique from supporting the cause of eliminating the remaining vestiges of colonialist and racist oppression. Mr Sikumba pledged that Zambia would not be found wanting in the quest for peace and justice. He said relations were being cemented and strengthened between the peoples of Zambia and Mozambique and between the United National Independence Party and the Frelimo Party.

NAMIBIA

Multiparty Conference To Begin in Windhoek 12 Nov

MB260556 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1930 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The proposed multiparty conference of the constitutional future of South-West Africa is scheduled to begin in Windhoek on 12 November. The South-West Africa Broadcasting Service reports that each of the participating parties will be entitled to name a minimum of one delegate and a maximum of 33 delegates to the conference. But, at the same time, the Office of the Administrator-General has confirmed that a group of 12 political parties not involved in the multiracial conference has asked the administrator-general to go ahead with the introduction of a state council.

SOUTH AFRICA

Condolences Sent to U.S., French Presidents

MB251117 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0955 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Pretoria, Oct 25, SAPA — The state president, Mr Marais Viljoen, has sent messages of sympathy to the President of the United States and the president of France, on the massacre of troops of both countries serving in the multinational peace-keeping force in Beirut. In his message to President Ronald Reagan, Mr Viljoen said: "Mr President, on behalf of the government and people of the Republic of South Africa I wish to express to you the shock and horror we feel at the brutal killing of a large number of the United States Marine Corps in Beirut, and the wounding of many others. This cowardly act is all the more despicable because it was perpetrated against a contingent of an internationally recognized peace-keeping force, which does not represent national interests but seeks only to create a climate of peace and stability in Lebanon. To yourself, your government, your people and all those Americans who have lost members of their families, I extend our most sincere and deep sympathy."

In his message to President Francois Mitterand, Mr Viljoen said: "I have learnt with profound shock and sadness of the tragic loss of life amongst the French contingent of the United Nations peace-keeping force in Beirut. This dastardly act of terrorism will be condemned by the whole civilised world, and on my behalf and on behalf of the government and people of the Republic of South Africa, I wish to convey to your excellency and to the bereaved next-of-kin our sincere and deepest sympathy."

U.S Citizens Warned Against Visiting Ciskei

MB260636 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] The United States has warned its citizens to avoid visiting Ciskei. According to the U.S. Information Service in Johannesburg, the measure has been taken because of what it describes [as] unsafe conditions in the territory. A U.S. Information Service official says the warnings come in the form of an advisory note issued by the State Department in Washington to warn Americans of trouble spots around the world. The statement does not eleborate on the trouble in Ciskei nor does it say exactly what kind of danger the Americans might face if they travel there.

Heads of Foreign Missions Meet in Pretoria

MB241642 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The heads of 45 South African foreign missions are meeting in Pretoria today and tomorrow to give detailed attention to South African foreign relations and discuss important developments in South Africa. The meeting, which is being held in South Africa itself for the first time, is being opened by the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha. Among the ministers who will be addressing the meeting is the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roelof Botha. The leader of the opposition Progressive Federal Party, Dr Frederik Van Zyl Slabbert, will also address the delegates.

ZIMBABWE

Premier, President Hail Zambian Anniversary

MB251101 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, says the Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] is a viable organization whose objectives are being progressively realized. In a telegram to President Kenneth Kaunda on Zambia's 19th independence anniversary yesterday, Comrade Mugabe, however, expressed great concern at the efforts of the Pretoria regime to disrupt SADCC's progress toward its (?noble) goals. He says the apartheid regime continues stressing its policy of employing all tactics at its disposal, be they military or economic, to destabilize its independent and peace-loving neighbors. The prime minister's message said Zimbabweans are conscious of the strong bonds of friendship and solidarity between Zimbabwe and Zambia nurtured during Zimbabwe's long and bitter struggle for liberation. He called for further closer cooperation between the two countries in the cultural, economic, and political fields.

In a separate message to Dr Kaunda, the president, Comrade Canaan Banana, expressed the conviction that the brotherly relations that the two socialist republics enjoy will continue to grow closer, especially in the face of continued aggression by the Botha regime against frontline states.

Mangwende Urges International Force in Namibia

MB251042 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The minister for foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, has called for the formation of an international volunteer force to dislodge the apartheid regime from its illegal occupation of Namibia. Speaking in Harare last night at a dinner marking the 19th independence anniversary of Zambia, Comrade Mangwende said the frontline states, with other progressive forces, demand immediate implementation of UN Resolution 435 on Namibia. He noted that Africa (?cannot speak) of real freedom when the majority of the people in South Africa and Namibia are still oppressed by the Pretoria regime led by P.W. Botha. Comrade Mangwende called upon every independent African state to dedicate themselves to the achievement of total independence in South Africa and Namibia.

The minister also noted that in spite of the rejection by the international community to link the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola with Namibia's independence, the Pretoria regime continues to delay the independence of the territory. Comrade Mangwende declared that frontline states, together with OAU and other progressive nations in the UN unreservedly reject the [words indistinct]. He assured the Boers in South Africa that victory is certain for South Africa and Namibia, as it came to Angola, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Further on Mangwende Statement

MB251046 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0839 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Harare, Oct 25, SAPA — The international community should seriously consider setting up an international volunteer force to dislodge South African troops from SWA/Namibia if other methods fail, according to Zimbabwe's minister of foreign affairs, Dr Witness Mangwende. Speaking at a reception in Harare last night to mark the 19th anniversary of Zambia's independence, Dr Mangwende said: If South Africa and its allies continue to prevaricate on the issue of Namibia' independence, and if the so-called Contact Group is unable, or unwilling, to bring sufficient pressure to bear on Pretoria to ensure speedy implementation of Resolution 435, then the international community as a whole must give very serious thought to the setting up of an international volunteer force. The West should see thatwhite supremacist South Africa was doomed and that nothing would prevent its demise, he concluded.

MAIL Editorial Values Independence Over U.S. Aid

MB211650 Harare The Sunday Mail in English 16 Oct 83 p 8

[Editorial: "American Aid"]

[Text] In spite of the fact that the news has been given wide coverage in Western newspapers that the U.S. is considering a reduction of aid to Zimbabwe by 50 percent because our country abstained in a UN Security Council resolution condemning the Soviet Union for shooting down a South Korean airliner, we want to believe that the news is the usual newspaper speculation.

We grant that President Ronald Reagan's administration has the right and power to reduce or raise the level of America's aid to Zimbabwe any time, as it deems fit. It is the sole decisionmaker, and there is no querying or quibbling about this. What is interesting and provides the driving force behind this editorial is the reason advanced for the threatened action — Zimbabwe's abstention in the UN vote of condemnation of the Soviet Union.

This means that President Reagan is against the expression or posture of independence at international conferences by any country that is a recipient of America's aid. The recipients of American aid are being painfully persuaded to adopt the slogan: "My benefactor, right or wrong." This would be an opportunistic stance of public sycophantism.

No doubt, we value aid; we value our friendship with the U.S. and all countries of the world; but we value our independence more. It symbolises our humanity and its intrinsic sanctity. The truth is known that people do not live by bread alone. There are greater values. Many times in history people have sacrificed bread on the sacred altar of spiritual values. That knowledge is a revelation.